

2-21-2003

## The Hilltop 2-21-2003

Hilltop Staff

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Life & Style  
**Dark Blue**  
*disappoints*  
*fans...*

B1

# THE HILLTOP

The Student Voice of Howard University Since 1924

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## Carol Moseley-Braun, First Black Female Senator, Bids for Presidency



PHOTO COURTESY OF AFCON

Carol Moseley-Braun officially announced her bid for the United States presidency.

By Amber Mobley  
Nation & World Editor

A black woman has entered the race.

Carol Moseley-Braun, the first black woman elected to the Senate, announced on Tuesday that she would enter the race for the White House in 2004.

Moseley-Braun, 55, announced at the University of Chicago that she would emphasize her opposition to war with Iraq and campaign on domestic issues, including the struggling U.S. economy.

Her campaign, will promise

"peace, prosperity and progress."

Moseley-Braun, a former Illinois state lawmaker and Cook County official, was elected to the Senate in 1992. But her time in the Senate was marked by controversy, including questions about her personal finances and her attempts at freelance diplomacy, including traveling to Nigeria to meet with Sani Abacha, the late military dictator.

After leaving the Senate she was appointed ambassador to New Zealand by former President

See BRAUN page A7

## Congress Approves Howard for \$237 Million for 2003

*The Appropriations Committee recommended an appropriation of \$237,474,000 for Howard University, which is the same as the fiscal year 2002 appropriation and Howard's budget request.*

See Story Tuesday February 25

## Bush Nominates Three Howardites

By David Johns  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Three of Howard's own were nominated for presidential advisory positions.

Doctor LaSalle Doheny Leffall, Howard University Professor and Surgeon and John Emory Fleming, Howard University PhD recipient, have already been confirmed for positions produced by presidential nominations, while Judith N. Macaluso, Howard Law school alumna, awaits a decision from the senate committee on governmental affairs.

Most recently, Leffall, Charles R. Drew Professor of

Surgery at Howard University College of Medicine and Howard University Hospital (HUH), has been re-designated by the President to serve as the Chair of the President's Cancer Panel. Leffall will operate as chair of the advisory panel for a year.

The Cancer Panel was chartered to monitor and evaluate the development and execution of the National Cancer Program and report to the President on program implementation.

The responsibilities of the NCP include developing policies regarding public health initial

See NOMINATION page A9

## Snow Clean Up a Long Process



PHOTO BY MAYA GILLIAM

Workers shovel snow in front of the Bethune Annex residence hall on Tuesday. It took the District more than 60 hours to clean up the 16 inches of snow that fell over the weekend, in the sixth worst storm Washington has seen.

## Students Affected by Chicago Club Stampede

By Amber Mobley  
Nation & World Editor

The E2 club on the south side of Chicago was ordered to close almost seven months ago. But it never followed those orders, and on Monday 21 people — 12 women and nine men, ages 19 to 43 — died in a stairwell stampede in the club.

Marchlena Rodgers, a junior marketing major at Howard University and a native of Chicago, frequented E2 and said the club was constantly overcrowded.

"That night would have been like putting 1,500 people in the Punch Out, spraying MACE and trying to get out of that one door," she said.

The scene went like this: Nearly 1,500 people were crowded into the upper level of the Epitome Restaurant, E2, when a



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEWSDAY.COM

Many are mourning the loss of those killed in the Chicago club stampede.

fight broke out between patrons.

One woman was stabbing another with a box cutter, according to police reports.

See CLUB page A7

## Students Deal with 'Cabin Fever'

By Veronica Miller  
Hilltop Staff Writer

DiTaylor Edmonds is from Atlanta, Georgia, where snow and snow ball fights are rare. But, like other Washingtonians with a zest for life, this week's blizzard turned Edmonds into a warrior. Snow balls were his weapon.

A friend and fellow Atlanta native joined in the snow frolicking, pushing Edmonds down and kicking snow in his face, but Edmonds could take the snow games for only a few minutes.

He retreated into the

warmth and comfort of his room in Drew Hall.

"For the rest of the weekend," Edmonds said, "DiTaylor Edmonds cleaned his room and studied."

The mood at Howard was decidedly playful this past weekend as one of the city's biggest snowstorms shut down Washington, D.C.

On Sunday, sophomore Melanie McNair bundled up and trekked to the Valley, where she and over a dozen others decided to go sledding. McNair's vehicle

See FEVER page A9



PHOTO BY CHANTAL NCHAKO

Many students opted to stay inside rather than fight the snow.



FILE PHOTO

Suspicion of a gas leak caused the i-Lab to temporarily close early Thursday morning.

## Possible Gas Leak Closes I-Lab

By David Johns  
Hilltop Staff Writer

At 1:35 a.m. Thursday morning, Howard University students were forced to evacuate the i-lab due to suspicion of a gas leak.

The fire department was dispatched to the i-lab as students reported what appeared to be a gaseous odor in the air. After evacuating students and staff from the i-lab, the fire department assessed the quality of the air throughout the building and after reporting that nothing gaseous or harmful was in the air, the i-lab reopened to students.

"Quite a few people were in

the lab and most of them left when they were asked to but I really didn't want to leave because I was almost finished with my paper," junior, Shanequa Anderson said. "The entire thing took about thirty minutes, at the time I smelled something very faint and now I have a headache, but it may be because I'm stressed."

While the number of students decreased when more people were interviewed, fourth year student, Larry Brown Jr, said "I could estimate that there were about 50 students in the i-lab at the time."

Access control clerk, Lee

Marshall said, "Someone reported that they smelled gas. Three fire trucks responded and the entire process took no more than 20 minutes."

Junior, mathematics major, Donte Coleman reported that "Someone said it was gas or something that caused the evacuation, I did not smell anything but left when they asked me to." When asked how he was notified he said, "they came around and made sure that everyone was aware of what was going on."

The consensus of our reports

See GAS page A7



## Voices & Views

What did you do when snowed in?



Brion Lawrence  
Marketing  
Senior

"I was kicking back at the crib with my girl."



Shalana Alleyne  
Biology  
Sophomore

"During the snow storm, I spent my time in the dorm sleeping and watching my favorite Lifetime movies."



Nicole Boone  
Biology  
Freshman

"I spent my time in my dorm. I was watching bootleg movies with my friends and wishing I was in Cali."



Edith Sodolo  
Public Relations  
Sophomore

"While I was snowed in I talked on the phone for many hours and ate delicious food."

COMPILED BY CHANTAL NCHIAKO

## The Search Continues for HU's Next Big Star

By David Johns  
Hilltop Staff Writer

A collaborative effort between the Texas Club and RU Entertainment, to find Howard's next big thing, comes into fruition.

The line spilled out from the lobby of the auditorium in the Human Ecology building. Contestants lined the halls and stairwells, hid in vacant classrooms, and huddled around one another trading singing suggestions, words of encouragement, and gestures of affirmation and consolation as they prepared to audition for a spot in T.C.A 2003 (talent showcase, concert, and after party).

Feb. 12 marked the beginning of a talent competition that will culminate next month

in a concert. The event will include those chosen from the talent search, signed performing

artists, and an after party to end all after parties.

The idea for the competition was born out of a desire to add a competitive element to the variety shows that are held on campus. The

Texas Club, long prided by a reputation for presenting unique and entertaining events to the Howard community, sought to take the typical activities of state clubs to the next level.

Thanks to a long standing friendship between Texas Club president, Ashley Lee, who could provide the leg work, and RU

Entertainment president and CEO, Faruq ElHaqq, who could provide networking opportunities and a possible development deal, the vision for an event came together to make everything complete.

The turnout for the auditions was larger than the shows organizers originally anticipated, but participants were happy to eagerly wait for their turn.

Club members were elated from the support of the student community. The auditions were open to singers, emcees, spoken word artists, and musicians.

"I came because they included spoken word artists. Usually auditions for talent showcases are for singers or emcees and I do neither," said senior Olu Burrell.

"I am pleased by the commitment of the club members as well as those who came out to audition," said Lee. "The students at Howard are so talented despite the competitive nature of the showcase everyone looked out for one another. People offered words of encouragement, gave up their audition spots for people who had other commitments. Everyone worked together."

The night was one of extreme talent as singer's battled nervousness and fought to hold notes, show their vocal range, and impress the judges with flavorful renditions of classic ballads like Stevie Wonder's "Overjoyed" and contemporary hits like Deborah

See TEXAS page A3

## New Howard University Chapter of American Humanics Receives Two Awards This Month

By Veronica Miller  
Hilltop Staff Writer

The world-famous Bally's Hotel in Las Vegas was hectic, with people scurrying to check in and out of rooms. In spite of all this, junior political science major Timothy Butler found Las Vegas to be an exotic, dream paradise, and enjoyed the opportunity to meet students from over 85 colleges and universities across the country.

It wasn't a collegiate gambling convention. Butler and nine other Howard students traveled to Las Vegas earlier this year to participate in the American Humanics Management Institute 2003, and came back with more than a few souvenirs.

The Howard University chapter of American Humanics (AH), of which Butler is vice-president, brought home three awards from the national convention.

Howard won first place for the Students Holding All Resource Energies (SHARE) award. The award is given to the chapter with the most creative marketing display and pro-



The American Humanics Student Association at the American Humanics Management Institute in Las Vegas, Nevada in January.

motional items at conference event called The Great Exchange.

Working under the theme "The Fruits of Our Labor," the Howard chapter's display included fruit baskets and vines, and original artwork graced promotional posters and book-marks.

Howard also secured first runner-up in the Launch Award, which is given to first-year AH chapters that have instituted activities and successfully marketed themselves around the community.

Howard accomplished that with "Fabulous Fun Friday," a carnival for the students of

Meyer Elementary School in Northwest Washington. The event coincided with National Youth Service Day last April.

The children, more than happy to play on the moon bounce and have their faces painted, responded well to the presence of college students, who encouraged them to stay in

school. Sophomore Studly Auguste brought home the third honor for Howard as a member of a group that won the AHMI 2003 case studies award.

To make things even better, this campus organization is only in its second year of existence.

American Humanics is a national organization that prepares and certifies undergraduate students to work in non-profit management. It serves as an educational vehicle, teaching students the business aspect of running a non-profit organization, and teaching skills such as grant writing, marketing, and budgeting.

The Howard chapter was established in the fall of 2001, and currently has 15 members and 30 volunteers.

In the past year and a half, the group has held several fundraisers and community development activities. Butler emphasizes that community development is different and more involved than community service.

See HUMANICS page A3

### Celebrating Black History

## Do You Know Your Dorm? Carver Hall

George Washington Carver was born in 1860 near Diamond Grove, Missouri. He died January 5, 1943 in Tuskegee, Alabama.

Carver and his mother were slaves. Their slave master's name was Moses Carver. George and his mother were sent to Arkansas because it was difficult to hold slaves in the border state of Missouri.

Moses Craver, their slave master, found out that his mother and other slaves had disappeared except for the George who had become very ill with whooping cough. Carver, frail and sick, was returned to his former master's home. There his health returned.

George learned to draw and spent considerable amounts of time painting flowers, plants, and landscapes. Amongst the blacks he was known as a singer and an organist. When he left the Carvers, they pronounced him free. He developed an interest in plants and animals.

In his late 20s, he managed to obtain a high school education in Kansas by working as a farm-hand. A university in Kansas refused to admit Carver because



Carver Hall is named after George Washington Carver.

he was black.

Carver then attended Simpson College, and from there he transferred to Iowa State Agricultural College where he received a degree in Agricultural Science in 1894 and a Master of Science degree in 1896.

Carver went to Tuskegee Institute because he believed this industrial type of education would help solve the race problem. Carver had many offers to other colleges but he remained at Tuskegee because he believed in

its destiny as an institution for black people.

Many scientists did not like Carver and did not consider him a scientist, merely a contributor to agriculture.

He worked in the South until his death. Carver has become an inspiration for many African Americans.

--Compiled by Stephanie Crouch

## English Department Honors Poet, Madhubuti

By David Johns  
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Department of English's 'Hearts Day' honored Howard's own living revolutionary Haki R. Madhubuti in a celebratory conference held last Friday. The tenth annual conference focused on assessing the achievements of Madhubuti in Poetry, Philosophy and Enterprise.

What resembled a class reunion/family get-together began with 9 a.m. and concluded with a formal dinner that ended close to 10 p.m. Friday night.

The day started with heartfelt welcomes by Dr. Gregory Hampton and Dr. Malik McCluskey, conference coordinators, and Dr. James A. Donaldson, Dean of the college of Arts and Sciences.

Breakout sessions that ran from 10 a.m.-5p.m. and speakers from across the country presented on Madhubuti's impact upon Black Enterprise, highlighting the significance of Third-World Press, a black owned and operated press company, and his contributions to contemporary poetics and philosophy.

Attendees spoke highly of a



Haki R. Madhubuti.

man whose selfless contributions have evolved with time all the while remaining conscious and raising pillars of self guidance for the Black community. "Talking to him is like talking to history," said Dr. James Turner, director of Africana Studies and Research Center at Cornell University, remarking about Madhubuti's contributions to both poetry and philosophy since the 1960's.

Madhubuti's poetry is inextricably related to his personal and intellectual politics, which one can also argue are interrelated.

See POET page A3





## Campus Crime Report

2/13/03 Downey Lot	Injured Person
2/13/03 I-Lab Lobby	Threat to do Bodily
Harm	
2/13/03 Greene Stadium	Simple Assault
2/13/03 Quad Crandall Hall	False Fire Alarm
2/14/03 Meridian Hill	False Fire Alarm
2/14/03 I-Lab	False Fire Alarm
2/14/03 Quad Crandall Hall	Sick Transport
2/14/03 Childer Lot	Damage Property
2/14/05 Media Center	Lost Property
2/14/03 Student Health	Sick Transport
2/14/03 Banneker Lot	Hit and Run
2/14/03 Drew Hall	Sick Transport
2/15/03 Slowe Hall	Sick Transport
2/15/03 HUH	Gun Shot
2/15/03 School of Business	Security Breach
2/15/03 Bethune Annex	Hit and Run
2/16/03 West Towers	Hazardous Smoke
2/16/03 West Towers	Stolen Vehicle
2/16/03 Meridian Hall	Stolen Vehicle
2/17/03 Administration Bldg	Hazardous Water
2/17/03 Communication	Theft II
2/18/03 2nd and Elm St. N.W.	Damaged Property
2/18/03 HUH	Missing Property
2/19/03 HUH	Fire
2/19/03 Minor Lot	Damaged Property
2/19/03 Founders Library	Sick Transport
2/19/03 Quad	Sick Transport
2/20/03 Douglass	Sick Transport
2/20/03 West Towers	Lost Property
2/20/03 Biology	Burglary
2/20/03 East Towers	Sick Transport
2/20/03 Blackburn Café	Sick Transport

## Texas Club Holds Auditions to Find Star

TEXAS from A2

Cox's "How Did You Get Here."

Spoken word artists found clever ways to verbally paint portraits of experiences, present aspirations, and future dreams while lyricists spit rhymes acapella or to tracks about everything from ghetto fantasies to suburban realities.

"My friends encouraged me to come to the auditions so that I could get past the 'what could have' and the 'what if's.' I hope that I learn from the experience," said freshman Candis Sisterunk, before her audition.

After singing Ella Fitzgerald's "Lullaby of Berlin," Sisterunk said, "I had fun. I was pretty comfortable. I see progress in my performance and I felt good about it. The more I audition and sing for other people the better I will get. Soon I will get to a point where when I am on stage it feels like I am in my room singing to the mirror."

The two-day event will take place on March 7-8 in Blackburn. The Texas club plans to address all aspects of performances, as the show will be preceded by a Forum titled "Entrepreneurship in Music". It will focus on networking, and information relevant to those interested in the industry, thinking about it, or just looking for a way to meet different people.

The event will culminate on the evening of March 8 with the showcase featuring Howard talent, signed recording artists, and an after party.

The Texas club is a group of individuals with an array of talent who possess the enthusiasm and promise to ensure successful events. The TCA 2003 will surely be a must-see event.

The hopes for the event were eloquently stated by Texas club member, Ashley Harrell, who said, "it was good to see all of the support for the event and hopefully this will make someone's dream come true."

Anyone who missed the auditions will surely not want to miss out on what promises to be one of the best productions this semester.

## English Dept. Honors Revolutionary Poet

POET from A2

As a minister, 'warrior poet' in the likes of his contemporaries, Sonja Sanchez and Amiri Baraka, Madhubuti's message of integrating art and politics as normal and essential parts of life embodied the message of the Black Arts Movement in which he emerged as an eloquent voice for the Black community as a whole.

Particularly speaking to his own sons, cultural sons, and young men he has mentored over the last thirty years, Madhubuti's message unselfishly encourages the black community to break away from the cultural and economic dependence upon white America and become more self-sufficient and autonomous.

One presenter described the passion possessed by Madhubuti as a result of him being pro-

foundly in love with black people.

Insisting that most of his success is attributed to the communal sense from which all of Madhubuti's philosophies extend, author Michael Simanga said, "Madhubuti shaped himself and his work in connection to other writers; he did not stand as himself and as a result grew out of Black Consciousness and the Black Power Movement."

The dinner, held in the Blackburn auditorium, entertained guests with a catered meal, African drum and dance, the melodic tunes of the School of Jazz band (with guest drummer Jerwayne "J Paul"), and emotional tributes to a man whose humility and perspective on life made it easy to understand why so many people adore not only the words but the man.

## New Humanics Chapter Recieves Awards

HUMANICS from A2

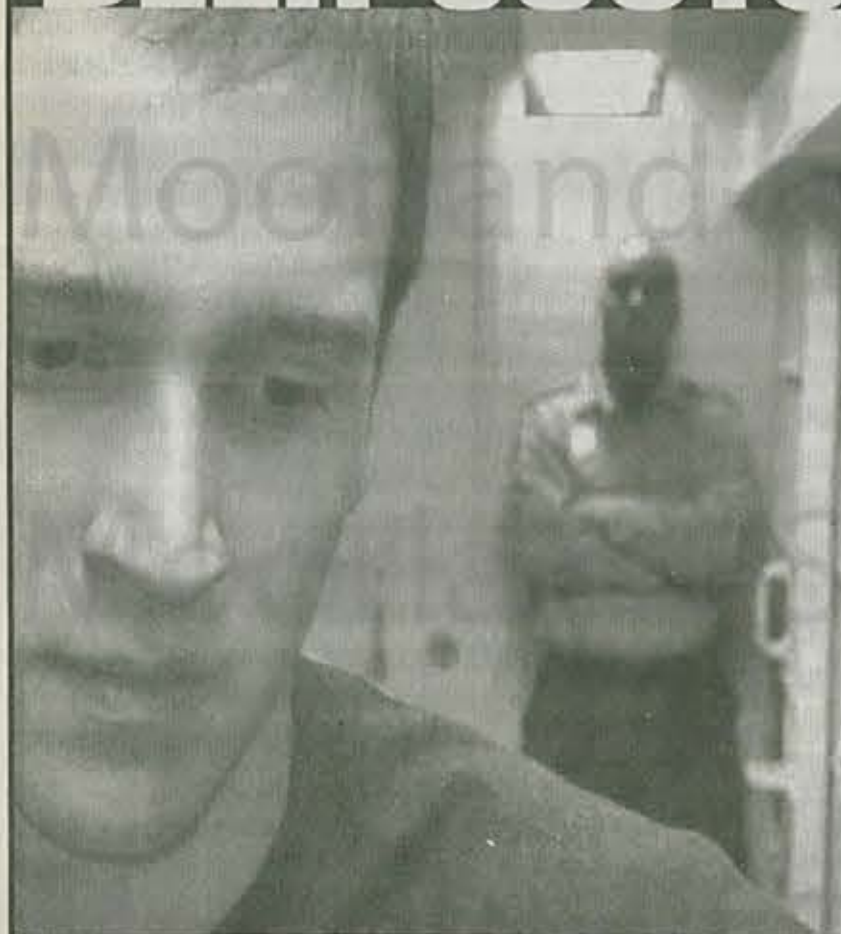
"Community development is the process of building and maintaining an effective community," he says. Butler also feels that non-profit organiza-

tion management requires more work than a for-profit business; along with planning, budgeting, and marketing, a non-profit organization must implement programs to bring about positive change.

Butler encourages students who are interested in community involvement, non-profit management, or any business training to join American Humanics at Howard. New members and volunteers are welcome year-

round. Interested students should contact campus director, Linda Jones. More information on the national organization can be found at [www.humanics.org](http://www.humanics.org).

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02-0005





## Bush Deaf to World-Wide Cries for Peace

By Amber Mobley  
Nation & World Editor

From Britain to China, Tokyo to the United States, protesters spoke in one voice this past weekend as they screamed "No" to a US-led war against Iraq.

Yet President George W. Bush turned the worldwide protests into dialogue when he rebutted, saying that the protesters would not sway his position against Iraq.

"War is my last choice," Bush told reporters at the White House as protesters mobilized in virtual armies of peace.

"But the risk of doing nothing is even a worse option as far as I am concerned."

"I owe it to the American people to secure this country," Bush said.

"I will do so."  
"Democracy is a beautiful thing, and that people are allowed to express their opin-

ion," he said.

"Some in the world don't view Saddam Hussein as a risk to peace."

"I respectfully disagree."

Countries which have continued to exist in turmoil — and sometimes bloody street combat — due to ethnic or economic differences united during marches against Bush's policy.

In the Bosnian city of Mostar, about a hundred Muslims and Croats united for an anti-war protest — the first such cross-community action in seven years in a place where ethnic divisions remain tense despite the 1995 Bosnian peace agreement.

In Ukraine, some 2,000



PHOTO COURTESY OF AP

This little girl was one of thousands in Greece and millions the world over that protested during the weekend against President Bush's policy against Iraq.

peace. Organizers claimed that at least one million people participated.

Police estimates were about half of the organizers' estimate.

They hoped to pressure Prime Minister Tony Blair into withdrawing support for the U.S.

people rallied in Kiev's central square. Anti-globalists led a peaceful "Rock Against War" protest joined by communists, socialists, Kurds and pacifists.

In divided Cyprus, about

500 Greeks and Turks marched through drenching rains to briefly block the end of a runway at a British air base.

The British capital saw one of the largest marches for

And, despite Britain being the U.S.'s only and strongest ally in Bush's campaign against Saddam Hussein, Bush stated that he will not be swayed by public opinion.

"Size of protest, it's like deciding, 'Well I'm going to decide policy based on a focus group.' The role of a leader is to decide policy based upon the security — in this case — security of the people," Bush said.

Meanwhile, nations kept speaking.

In Syria, a middle eastern nation, some 200,000 protesters marched through Damascus.

Thousands turned out in Bulgaria, Hungary, South Korea, Australia, Malaysia and Thailand.

Crowds measuring only in the hundreds or less gathered in Romania, Bosnia, Hong Kong, Indian-controlled Kashmir and Moscow.

Romania, Bosnia, Hong Kong, Indian-controlled Kashmir and Moscow.

But the crowds still gathered.

Police estimated that 60,000 turned out in Oslo, Norway, 50,000 congregated in bitterly cold Brussels, while about 35,000 gathered peacefully in the cold weather of Stockholm.

Crowds reaching from 10,000 to 2,000 flooded the streets of Amsterdam and Copenhagen, Capetown and Johannesburg in South Africa, Tokyo, Vienna and even in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

There was another huge turnout in Rome with organizers estimating a crowd of 3 million.

Several thousand protesters in Athens, Greece unfurled a giant banner across the wall of the ancient Acropolis — "NATO, U.S. and EU equals War" — before heading toward the U.S. Embassy.

Hundreds of thousands marched through Berlin.

On US shores, anti-war activists hoped to draw 100,000 people to the streets in New York City later for a protest near the United Nations.

Police were planning extensive security that included sharpshooters and radiation detectors.

NATO was in New York City drawing up another resolution for Saddam as an alternative to going to war.

Bush said a second resolution "would be useful," although "we don't need a second resolution. It's clear this guy could even care less about the first resolution. He's in total defiance."

France, with support from Russia and China, does not accept the U.S. view that the Security Council effectively endorsed force as an option to disarm Iraq in an earlier resolution that warned of "serious consequences" if Saddam persisted in defying U.N. demands.

On Tuesday, however, the Bush administration drew some support in Europe.

Thirteen incoming members of the European Union endorsed a joint declaration in Brussels, Belgium, that warned Saddam he had one last chance to disarm.

## Nation on Orange Level Terrorist Alert Level highest since 9/11 anniversary, duct tape store supplies depleted

By David Johns  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Increases in terrorist prevention alerts have the entire country shaken. While no specific threats have been announced, media outlets, colleges and universities, parents and students alike contemplate ways to prepare for the worst-case scenario.

Since Sept. 11, increased video surveillance of possible terrorist activity has made the FBI, CIA, Pentagon, Department of Homeland Security, and a handful of other government agencies responsible for trying to track down terrorists who might strike on American soil.

On Feb. 10, the Department of Homeland Security urged Americans to prepare for a terrorist attack that could involve biological, chemical, or radiological weapons, most likely aimed at lightly guarded targets such as hotels or apartment buildings.

Less than a week later, information was released stating that the increase in the terrorist alert for the nation was based on faulty information from an Iraqi informant.

Because of this information, the nation's terrorism threat level increased to the second highest, yet because of the possibility that the information is bogus, Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge said that the level might be lowered.

It has remained at the orange level.

Junior Kamesha K. Llewellyn said, "[The alerts] cause unnecessary hysteria ... I want to be aware of what is going on but I don't want to live under the assumption that the worst will happen."

With the increase in the nation's terrorism threat level at orange — high risk for an attack — officials continually urge people to take precautionary steps to protect themselves and their families.

Some of the suggested precautionary measures are find-



ing meeting places, one near home and one in a near-by neighborhood, to meet at in

case of a disaster, choosing a contact person out of state (preferably in an area most likely not to be attacked), and collecting disaster kits for homes, cars, and the work place.

The timing of the Hajj, the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, has had many on alert, but most Howard University students seem to be taking things in stride.

Junior Keinan Thompson is not worried. "If [an attack] is going to happen, what can I really do?" Thompson said. "I saw on the news that people were going to the stores and buying duct tape and water but I'm not going to do any of that."

While duct tape, plastic sheeting, water, and canned goods quickly fly off of grocery store shelves, many students like sophomore Xavier Johnson are attempting to keep things in perspective.

"It is necessary to be aware of what is going on, so I watch the news and read the newspa-

pers, but I refuse to alter my life around people's suspicions," Johnson said. "It is good to be prepared, but we still have to live — there are so many important things going on in the world right now and we can't stop living."

Llewellyn agrees. "I can't sit in my room drinking water all day waiting for something to happen."

For anyone searching for information on everything from emergency kit preparation to what to do in case of a biological attack, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has a 100-page-plus manual: "Are You Ready? A Guide to Preparedness."

The guide is available at [www.fema.gov/areyouready](http://www.fema.gov/areyouready). Additionally, the American Red Cross and other government and state sources have web accessible information.

## DC 'Murder, Inc.' Bosses Face Death Penalty

By Jamillah Hodge  
Contributing Writer

Two D.C. locals, living a "New Jack City-esque" life formed a crime family. Soon, they were known as Murder, Inc.

Now, the two heads of Murder, Inc. may become the first two people to die by capital punishment in the nation's capital since 1957.

Kevin L. Gray, 31, and Rodney L. Moore, 37 have been convicted of the murders of 29 people in the district (Gray is convicted of carrying out 19 murders and Moore convicted of 10 killings). This is a record for any two defendants in Washington, D.C.

The death penalty phase in the trial of the two most proficient killers in D.C. history began on Feb. 10, with prosecutors seeking to convince jurors that Gray and Moore should be executed.

The same jury convicted the two men last month in U.S. District Court.

"I'm against the death penalty, because it is not our

choice to say who lives and who dies," freshman Leah Harris said.

am for it," Meyers said. Freshman physical therapy major Amina Hall believes the



PHOTO COURTESY OF WASHINGTONPOST.COM

Rayful Edmond III, a cocaine distributor serving a life sentence, testifies against Rodney L. Moore, far left, and Kevin L. Gray in U.S. District Court earlier this month in the penalty stage of the 'Murder Inc. Trial.'

Another Howard student, Yuvay Meyers believes in the judicial system.

"After killing 29 people, if it comes to the death penalty, I

two should be put in jail for the rest of their lives, to let them "suffer in life rather than relieve them in death."

The case against Gray and

Moore stems from a decade of murders, drug deals, and killing of witnesses, prosecutors said. The eight-month trial ended with Gray convicted of ordering or carrying out 19 murders and Moore convicted of 10 killings.

Four co-defendants were convicted of dozens of crimes, including murder, but do not face capital punishment. The capital charges against Gray and Moore were for carrying out murder in aid of racketeering or for killing as part of a continuing criminal enterprise.

Gray was convicted of three such charges for the slaying of Scott Downing in 1993, Rodney Faison and Ricky Fletcher in 1998. Moore faces one capital offense for the 1998 slaying of Roy Cobb.

The proceedings for the death penalty phase will continue for at least two weeks in the courtroom of Criminal Court Judge Joyce Royce C. Lamberth. They are unusual in the District, where city law is life in prison without parole.

"No one should get the death penalty, seriously,"

Harvey Maclin said. "Spiritually, I believe that no one should have the right to take anyone's life."

Federal prosecutors can bring capital charges in any local jurisdiction if they prove the offense violated a federal statute punishable by death. Another jury in Lamberth's courtroom convicted drug dealer Tommy Edelin of four counts of murder in 2001, but voted against capital punishment.

Howard student Chris Robinson said, "They deserve [capital punishment], but they shouldn't get the death penalty if someone else didn't."

"They shouldn't get harsher punishment when someone else got a lesser punishment," Russell Drake said.

Although Nino Brown was a fictional character in "New Jack City," it is now clear that there are people of his nature around. The big question is whether or not they will get the death penalty. It is clear that this will be a trial to keep up on.



**By Leah Harris**  
Contributing Writer

A religious pilgrimage to the holiest Islamic city, Mecca, in Saudi Arabia, the Hajj is a trip that all Muslims, who are physically and financially able, are required to take at least once during their lifetimes. This voyage to the holy shrine, the Kaaba, to which Muslims pray each day, is a time to remember the sacrifice and dedication of the Prophet Ibrahim and his son Ismael, who are credited with building the shrine.

During the Hajj, voyagers

A significant part of the pilgrimage is the stone throw. During this, worshippers pitch seven stones each at three gray pillars that represent Satan's temptation to Ibrahim. This action symbolizes rejection of worldly temptations and evil actions.

After the Hajj, there is the Feast of the Sacrifice, or Eid al-Adha. In preparation for this, Muslims purchase and sacrifice sheep to Allah, remembering that God allowed Ibrahim to slaughter a sheep in place of his son when he proved faithful.

Although this remarkably sacred journey is a highlight in the lives of most who make the trip, lately, the Hajj has proved deadly for many pil-

Hundreds of people have died in the last decade alone because of these stampedes, which are often caused as a result of the stone throw, which is a hazard in itself.

In 1997, a fire swept through a camp, killing well over three hundred pilgrims. Plane crashes have also claimed hundreds of lives. Although this year's celebration was also wrought with catastrophe, it was better than past years. Thirty-five people were killed due to stampedes over the course of two days in 2003.

Student Abdul Razak Aziz said, "It is a difficult situation, because you can't avoid over a million people in such a small space. There were not two million Muslims in the world when the tradition began, so the overcrowding was not an issue then."

Aziz compares the situation to a huge concert with too many people — someone is bound to get trampled or hurt.

Despite the possible danger, the trip is definitely worth the risk, according to Howard alumni, Neel Pasha Abdul-Hameed.

Abdul-Hameed took the pilgrimage in 1988. Having a wonderful time, he describes the experience as the best of his life.

"Seeing all colors togeth-

er dedicating worship to God and being in the precincts where the Kaaba was located was a blessing beyond words," Abdul-Hameed said.

To Abdul-Hameed, the climax of his trip was completing the voyage by going to Mount Arafat where he prayed for forgiveness of his sins and for all of humanity. Through this act, his sins will be forgiven and God will answer his prayers according to his beliefs.

The purpose of taking Hajj is to teach the lesson of being of service to others. Already skilled at serving others, Howard's current Muslim chaplain, Imam Johari took the sojourn this year.



Millions of Muslims make a journey to Mecca each year.

# World Briefs, Briefly

TEHRAN, Iran - An Iranian military plane carrying 302 members of the elite Revolutionary Guards crashed in the mountains of southeastern Iran on Wednesday, killing all on board in the country's worst plane crash ever.

The plane was en route from Zahedan, on the Pakistan border, to Kerman, about 500 miles southeast of Tehran, state-run Tehran television reported.

It crashed in a mountainous area about 20 miles from its destination.

**HAMBURG, Germany** - A Moroccan student received the maximum 15-year sentence for helping the al-Qaida hijackers who carried out the Sept. 11 attacks — the first conviction anywhere of a suspect in the terror plot against the United States.

Mounir el Motassadeq, 28, was found guilty of more than 3,000 counts of accessory to murder.

Fire raced through two subway trains packed with people in South Korea on Tuesday after a man ignited a carton filled with flammable material, killing about 120 people and injuring 135, officials said.

A suspect was under interrogation but police still did not know what motivated the attack.

The fire started in one six-car train at a station, igniting seats and spreading to another train also stopped at the station, officials said.

**BERLIN** - A German couple is demanding compensation from a tour operator because a maid repeatedly interrupted them while they were having sex in their hotel room during a vacation in Cuba. The man and wife filed a lawsuit seeking a refund because they said the maid walked in on two occasions while they were engaged in intercourse, even though they had a "Do Not Disturb" sign outside the door. They are seeking about \$4,000 in damages.

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## What's News—

In Business and Finance

### Economists Lower First-Half Forecasts

Economists are reining in their expectations for growth early this year, concluding that consumers and businesses may pull back amid worries about Iraq and terrorism.

A group of 55 economists who participated in The Wall Street Journal's economic-forecasting survey this month nudged their predictions for first- and second-quarter growth downward from what they predicted in a survey conducted before the start of the year. But they raised their forecasts slightly for late 2003 on hopes tensions will ease quickly.

Overall, 23 of the economists reduced their forecasts for first-quarter gross domestic product, while 26—nearly half—lowered their expectations for the second quarter. The average estimate for first-quarter GDP, the total value of all goods and services produced in the economy, slipped to 2.6% from the 2.7% annualized growth forecast in a survey conducted in December. The average for the second quarter fell to 3% from 3.2%.

Growth for all of 2002 was 2.4%, the U.S. Commerce Department reported last month in releasing its first estimate of fourth-quarter GDP. Growth in the quarter was put at a feeble 0.7% rate.

Now, with a potential conflict in Iraq growing closer and tensions mounting over the nuclear standoff in North Korea, economists surveyed expect businesses to hold off a bit on spending for new equipment and to delay efforts to rebuild their inventories.

Heightening concerns about the direction of the economy, the Labor Department announced that the producer-price index for finished goods rose 1.6% in January, the biggest monthly increase in wholesale prices in 13 years. Surging costs for energy, food and equipment put inflationary concerns back on the table.

### Cellphone Carriers

#### Cut Bargain Plans

The wireless gravy train is slowing down. Several mobile-phone carriers have pared some of their most generous calling plans, with some cutting back on minutes by as much as 60% and others getting rid of free-evening calling.

AT&T Wireless Services Inc. stopped offering a national plan with 1,000 "anytime" minutes for \$39.99. Now, AT&T Wireless subscribers paying that much per month get as few as 550 "anytime" national minutes. T-Mobile USA Inc. has stopped offering unlimited nighttime calling in one plan. The carrier has also pared back a national \$39.99 plan from 1,000 minutes to 600. Cingular Wireless also recently reduced the number of minutes in its \$39.99 local calling plan from 1,000 minutes to as little as 400 minutes in some markets.

The carriers, worried about the continued slowdown in the wireless-industry growth, rolled out generous plans late last year to attract more subscribers. Now the industry wants to report strong cash positions at the expense of growth.

Experts think it is likely that price cutting will eventually return, given how competitive the industry remains. So unless you're desperate to sign up for a plan now, just wait a while for another round of promotions.

### Antiwar TV Ads

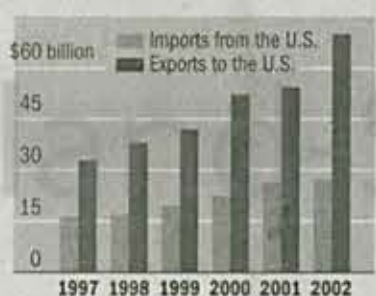
#### Stage an End-Run

All-news cable networks including Fox News and CNN have refused to broadcast advertising opposing the impending war with Iraq—but that hasn't stopped antiwar groups. Starting this week, one organization plans to do an end-run around the networks by buying time from local cable operators who will run the spots during time slots they control on some of the same news networks that turned the ads down.

The ads, which will appear in several large cities including New York and Washington, include pleas for

### Surging Surplus

China's exports to the U.S. are growing much faster than U.S. imports.



Note: Chinese government figures can vary significantly from U.S. figures because of different statistical methods. Source: China's General Administration of Customs

peace from actresses Tyne Daly and Amy Brenneman of the CBS television series "Judging Amy," record producer Russell Simmons and hip hop star Mos Def.

A spokesman for the Cable News Network said CNN rejected antiwar ads because as a policy it doesn't accept "advocacy ads about regions in conflict." The network said it has also rejected pro-Israeli and pro-Palestinian ads.

### Intel to Unveil

#### Cellphone Chip

Intel Corp. is placing a huge bet on a new microchip that it hopes will help bring a new generation of cellphones to a much wider audience.

The chip, known by its codename Manitoba, is part of the company's multiyear, \$30 billion campaign to acquire communications expertise and turn manufacturing technology into a competitive weapon. By squeezing multiple functions on to individual chips, Intel is betting that it can make big inroads into the wireless world. The company predicts that Manitoba and its successors will inspire smaller, cheaper handsets that can do tricks like playing MP3 music files and game software at the same time.

Intel faces an uphill struggle. Rival Texas Instruments Inc. supplies some 50% of cellphone chips, and already has products that combine two major cellphone functions. It plans to have even more integrated chips next year. Another competitor, Qualcomm Inc., also has been on a growth tear lately.

### Campbell to Launch Ready-to-Eat Soups

Campbell Soup Co. announced a major expansion of its on-the-go soups, including Soup at Hand, a ready-to-eat line in a microwavable container similar to a soda can so it can be sipped at work, at school or in the car.

Campbell has been the dominant player in the \$3.3 billion North American soup market for decades. But in recent years, the food company's sales have suffered as it has been slow to come up with products geared to changes in eating habits. American families eat fewer meals at home than ever before. In fact, one in four meals is eaten while people are working, in the car or otherwise engaged, Campbell says.

### Odds & Ends

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. reported a 16% rise in fiscal fourth-quarter earnings amid a strong performance in its core retail business in the U.S. ... General Motors Corp. sued Avanti Motor Corp., charging the Studebaker XUV knocks off its Hummer H2 sport-utility vehicle. GM is seeking a preliminary injunction to prevent Avanti Motor from making, advertising and selling the Studebaker XUV, the company said.

By Jay Hershey

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## Comic-Book Heroes Try Leap to Big Screen In a Single Bound

By JOHN LIPPMAN

The first big movie of 2003 is based on a comic-book character played by a buff, cute actor in a skin-tight suit and face mask who avenges justice wherever evil strikes.

Hold on. Wasn't that last year's big movie?

If "Daredevil," which stars Ben Affleck, resembles last year's hit "Spider-Man," then that's just fine with the movie's distributor and co-producer, Twentieth Century Fox. The studio is positioning "Daredevil" to be the first comics-based movie to ride the jet stream behind "Spider-Man," which last year sold more than \$404 million in tickets in the U.S. for Sony Corp.

But "Daredevil," which opened over Valentine's Day weekend, won't be the last superhero chasing "Spider-Man." In what Fox hopes to be a one-two punch, trailers promoting Fox's "X-Men 2," which opens 10 weeks later, will be attached to "Daredevil" linking the two films in the audience's mind. A flood of other studios' comic-related movies will either hit theaters this year or in coming years.

"This was a well-laid-out plan," says Tom Rothman, chairman of Fox Filmed Entertainment, who says the studio wanted to get its two comics-based movies out before the Universal Pictures flick "The Hulk" smashes into theaters on June 20. Fox plans to open "X-Men 2" on May 2, because it falls on the same weekend that "Spider-Man" opened last year. Mr. Rothman calls the first weekend of May "the best date of the year" for the kickoff of the summer popcorn-movie season.

### Marketing Marvels

Significantly, all four films are based on characters from Marvel Comics. Marvel has grown much more aggressive about licensing its characters since the company was

## Skyscrapers Race Again For the Top

Less than 18 months after the World Trade Center was destroyed, urban planners around the globe are racing again to build the world's tallest building.

City officials in Shanghai and a Japanese developer are dusting off plans from the mid-1990s to construct the world's tallest building—and are even adding seven stories. Meanwhile, every week in Taiwan construction workers build a new floor on top of "Taipei 101," a skyscraper expected to stand 1,667 feet and 101 stories tall—about 300 feet higher than the Twin Towers stood and more than 50 feet higher than the Shanghai project.

Other plans include a 110-story, 1,772-foot-tall international business center in Seoul, South Korea. And in New York, the two finalists in the competition to redesign the World Trade Center site each feature their own version of what would be the tallest building on earth. Currently, the title belongs to the pencil-shaped Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, at 1,483 feet.

Few people in the aftermath of 9/11 would have predicted such a quick return to the tallest-building race. In fact, the Lower Manhattan Development Corp., which is coordinating the rebuilding of the World Trade Center site, says it hadn't even been considering super-tall structures until a public meeting in May at which a large number of people called for a tall symbol, a spokesman said.

One of the finalist plans features a 1,776-foot-tall spire and hanging gardens. The other consists of a pair of 1,665-foot-tall open-air towers of scaffolding. Museums, performance centers and memorials could be constructed at various levels within the structures. Neither plan calls for building office space into the stratosphere. Larry Silverstein, who owns the leases on the World Trade Center and who will rebuild the office space, says quick evacuation for tenants is one of his main requirements.

One theory to explain revived passions for the high-rise: "It may be to put it back in (the terrorists') face—kind of an American we'll-show-you attitude," says David Maola, executive director at the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pa. "We'll start building them bigger and better just to show the rest of the world."

By Wall Street Journal staff reporters Ben Dolven, Jason Dean and Ryan Chittum.

## Too Many Men in Tights?

### Here They Come to Save the Day

Hollywood is banking on comic-book heroes' power to pack movie houses, as shown below:

FILM	DISTRIBUTOR	RELEASE	COST
Daredevil	Twentieth Century Fox	Feb. 14	\$78 million
X-Men 2	Twentieth Century Fox	May 2	\$100 million
The Hulk	Universal Pictures	June 20	\$125 million
Spider-Man 2	Sony Pictures	May 7, 2004	\$150+ million
The Punisher	Artisan Entertainment	2004	\$25 million
Iron Fist	Artisan Entertainment	2004	\$25 million
Blade III	New Line Cinema	2005	\$55 million
Iron Man	New Line Cinema	2005	\$80+ million

taken over several years ago by toy moguls Isaac Perlmutter and Avi Arad. Mr. Arad, who heads Marvel's movie division, has been licensing Marvel characters to many Hollywood studios. New Line Cinema, a unit of AOL Time Warner Inc., is producing "Blade III" and developing "Iron Man." "The Punisher" and "Iron Fist" are under way at Artisan Entertainment Inc. "Namor Sub-Mariner" is in development at Universal, as is a "Spider-Man" sequel at Sony. Mr. Arad expects soon to have a deal for "Ghost Rider" with a studio he won't name, although Sony and actor Nicolas Cage are rumored to be interested.

But Fox is producing more Marvel movies than any other studio. In addition to its three to date, Fox also is developing Marvel's "Fantastic Four," "Silver Surfer," and "Elektra," a spin-off from "Daredevil." A sequel to "Daredevil" is already in the works, too.

The box-office successes of "X-Men" and "Spider-Man" reinforce Hollywood's sense that movies with iconic characters and "built-in awareness" are safe bets at a time when the cost of failure is more crippling than ever. Comic books' serial format also makes it easier to set up the movie as a "franchise" with multiple sequels.

"These are great stories to mine,"

Mr. Rothman says. "You have tried-and-true characters, and for literary sources they are quite visual."

Hollywood's most-recent obsession with comic books goes back to Warner Bros.' 1989 release of "Batman," a dark, brooding take on the character from AOL Time Warner's DC Comics. Warner Bros., also a unit of AOL Time Warner, then pumped out three "Batman" sequels over the next seven years.

But Warner Bros.' experience offers a valuable lesson to others pursuing a similar strategy. Each sequel's costs rose sharply over the previous film, but ticket sales for two of the three sequels dropped steeply from the previous movie. Warner Bros. decided to "rest" the franchise after the fourth "Batman" movie sold fewer tickets in the U.S. than it cost to make. On hiatus since 1997, the studio's "Batman" has two movies in development, in addition to a new "Superman" movie.

Mr. Arad says even obscure Marvel characters can be a hit in a well-made movie. For example, New Line Cinema's "Blade," which starred Wesley Snipes as a half-man, half-vampire seeking to avenge his mother's death, earned \$70 million at the box office in 1998, and last year's "Blade II" took in \$68.5 million.

While Fox with "Daredevil" aims

to take advantage of the success of "X-Men" and "Spider-Man," few in Hollywood believe the blind character has the name recognition of "Spider-Man," a point Mr. Arad concedes. "You say 'Spider-Man' and they get it," he says. "But 'Daredevil'—you have to be a geek to know."

### Second-Guessing

In fact, some in Hollywood think comics-based movies aren't such a good investment now with so many in the works. "It feels like it's already over," says a major studio chief, who says these movies are too expensive—"Spider-Man" cost \$150 million—as each director strives to top the special effects of the previous film. Moreover, he says, the studios frequently have to share profit with the talent, such as Sony Pictures, which had to split its "Men in Black" take with director Steven Spielberg and stars Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones.

If "Daredevil" isn't expected to make as much as "Spider-Man," it also cost a lot less. "Daredevil" cost \$78 million to produce and 50% of the budget was financed by Regency Enterprises, a private production company. If the movie sells more than \$30 million in tickets opening weekend, it should easily turn a profit. "X-Men 2" is entirely underwritten by Fox. But the studio locked in talent fees on the sequel when it made the deal on the first "X-Men," keeping down costs. Nonetheless, the preset raises for talent and splashier digital effects have boosted the budget on "X-Men 2" to about \$100 million, before marketing. The first "X-Men" movie cost about \$75 million, sold \$54.5 million opening weekend in July 2000 and went on to collect \$157.3 million at the U.S. box office.

Mr. Arad says not all comics-based movies are necessarily costly; they don't even have to have traditional superheroes. "We may do comedy," he says, pointing to the offbeat Marvel cult comic "Mort the Dead Teenager," which lasted only four issues. "Mort" is a slacker teen, living on New York's Long Island, who one day is hit by a train. He meets up with Teen Death, son of the Grim Reaper. They go around haunting people from Mort's past life.

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# NEWS

## 21 Killed in Chicago Night Club Stampede This Week

CLUB FROM A1

Pepper spray or some other chemical toxin was allegedly sprayed by security to break it up.

Choking and gagging - some blinded - clientele rushed for the one open exit.

The exit led down an unlit stairwell.

The overcrowding, the pushing and the panic led to the deaths of 21 people, injuring countless others.

"One door always stays closed, that's how it is at E2, and those stairs are long," said Rodgers. "It's one way in and one way out."

Prosecutors said it is too soon to determine whether criminal charges will be filed, but Mayor Richard M. Daley is moving to punish the club owners and close the club which was ordered to be shut down for code violations last summer.

"When a court issues an order against you, it is your responsibility to follow that order," Daley said at a news conference.

"You don't have the right to dis-

obey that order until someone catches you or until you have a disaster happen, as it did Monday morning," he said.

City attorneys filed contempt charges earlier in the week against the owner, Le Mirage Studio Ltd., for operating in violation of the court order, and intends to revoke the liquor licenses for both establishments and shut them down permanently.

Attorneys for the owners said they followed the court order, and dispute that it banned them from using the dance floor.

Jesse Jackson and Jesse Jackson Jr., both friends of club owner Dwain Kyles, urged the city not to pass judgment on Kyles and his partner, Calvin Hollins.

Andrew Grant, an attorney for Le Mirage, said club owners had a deal with officials to keep the club open until a hearing next month on the code violations, a claim that the city denies, the Associated Press reported.

Owners of E2 agreed to close

the club while the investigation is underway.

Yet, Howard University student and Chicago native Krystal Nesbitt, doesn't understand why the club was open and operating in the first place.

"I can't see how the city didn't know it was open seeing that the police station is down the street [from the club].

City officials could not explain why they didn't know the E2 club was still operating.

Fire department inspectors visited the first-floor restaurant in October, but did not visit the second-floor nightclub because they had no reason to suspect it was open, even though E2 was featured in current Internet nightlife listings for the city of Chicago.

Neither Nesbitt nor Rodgers is surprised that the stampede happened at E2. Both were aware of the club's violent history.

"The 21 people that died was a tragedy, but there have been other people who have died, been shot at

E2," Rodgers said.

Jesse Jackson's Rainbow/PUSH organization has been arranging to pay for burial expenses for the victims.

Jackson is close friends with the owner's father.

Rodgers attended E2 during her Christmas break and says the club has a history of violence - including violence from the club's security guards.

"One of my friends got into it with a security guard that almost muffed her (aggressively pushed the back of her head with his hand) down the stairs."

Rodgers and company summoned police to the club that same night.

"So, yeah the owner should be penalized, but its contradictory because the city knew it was open," she said.

Police Superintendent Terry G. Hillard stated that his department had responded to 80 disturbances at the club since 2000, but was not aware of the order before the stampede.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WASHINGTONPOST.COM

Investigators from the Chicago Fire Department check the exterior at E2 nightclub, which officials ordered closed last summer. Balloons and pictures of slain club goers lined the street.

pede.

Nesbitt is still awaiting word that people she knew - and may have been at the club that night - are all right.

"I've seen the faces of nine out of the 21 people who were killed and I

didn't recognize any of them," she said. "I'm just waiting for word from home."

R. Kelly said he will give \$3000 to each of the families who lost someone in the night club stampede.

## Moseley-Braun To Run for United States President

BRAUN from A1

Bill Clinton. She currently teaches law in Chicago.

The snowstorm that hit the metropolitan area this past weekend prevented Moseley-Braun from actually filing papers with the Federal Election Commission in the District on Tuesday to announce her formation of a presidential exploratory committee.

A spokesman said she would file the papers on Wednesday.

There are already seven Democrats seeking their party's nomination for the right to challenge Republican President Bush for the 2004 US Presidency.

Moseley-Braun is the second anti-war candidate to join the contenders in recent days.

Ohio Rep. Dennis Kucinich, the former Cleveland mayor who has been one of the strongest voices

in Congress against war in Iraq, also announced his candidacy.

She is also the second black candidate in the field, after civil rights advocate Al Sharpton. Democratic Party officials have said they hope her candidacy will help energize black voters.

The first black woman to make a presidential bid was former Democratic U.S. Rep. Shirley Chisholm of New York in 1972. She was unsuccessful.

## Suspicion of Gas Leak Causes I-Lab to Close Temporarily Thursday

GAS from A1

revealed that a students suspicion about a smell that could have been a gas led to the evacuation of the i-lab. The fire department checked the quality of the air and reported that there was nothing gaseous in the air.

Aside from being inconvenienced or prodded to put the studying to rest, the alarm proved false. In a time of heightened terrorism, snowstorms, and sleepless college nights, the actual events are still questionable.

Lee Marshall adamantly

maintained that "[while the fire department] reported no findings I wouldn't say that it was a false alarm, basically they couldn't find anything in the air but someone still smelled something. If it was gas or not, now that's a different story."

## Bison Yearbook Editor-in-Chief 2003-2004

### Applications are now available!

**T**hink you have what it takes to manage a large student publication? Then come by the Office of Student Activities (suite 117 in the Blackburn Center) and pick up an application.

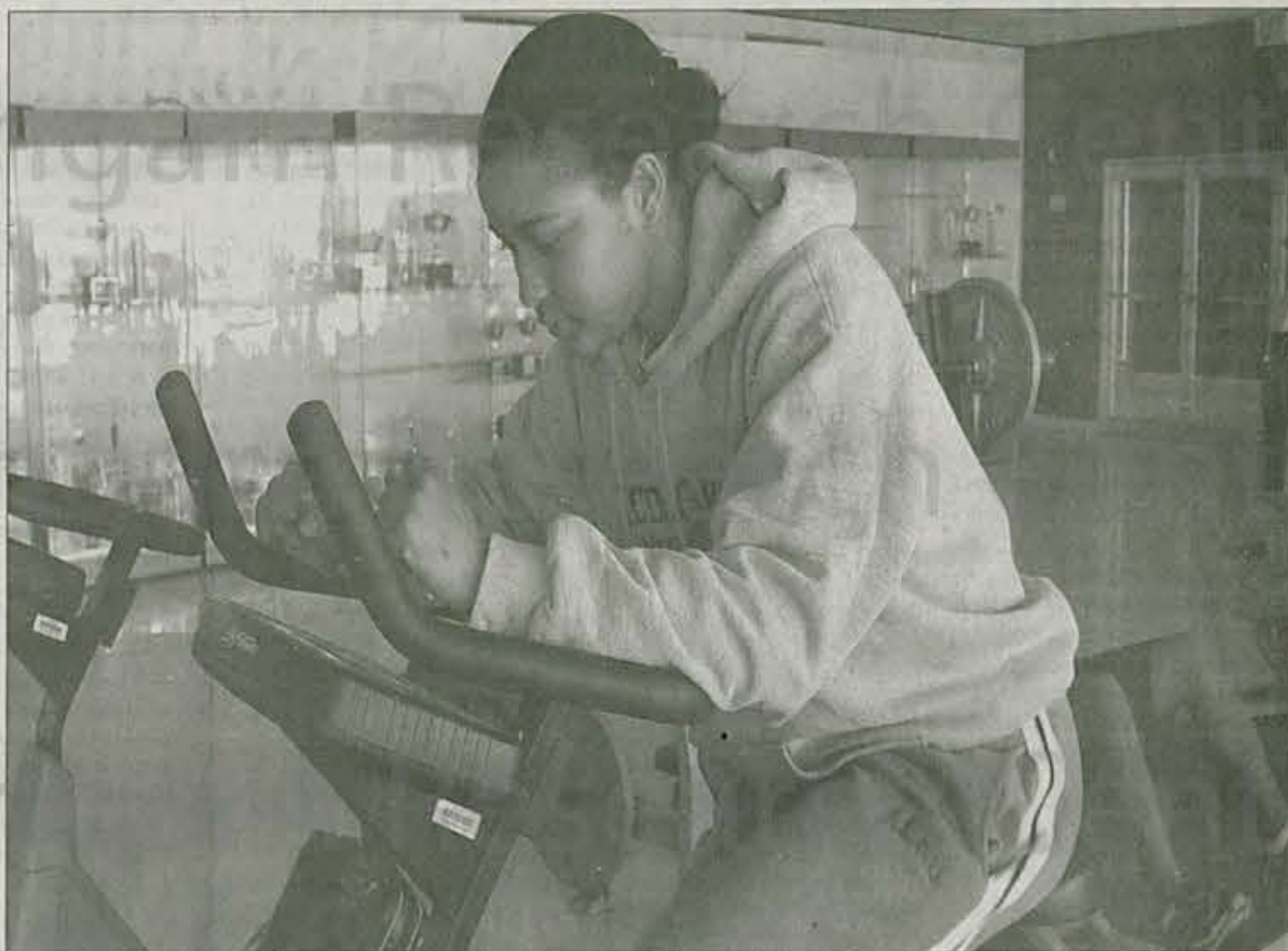
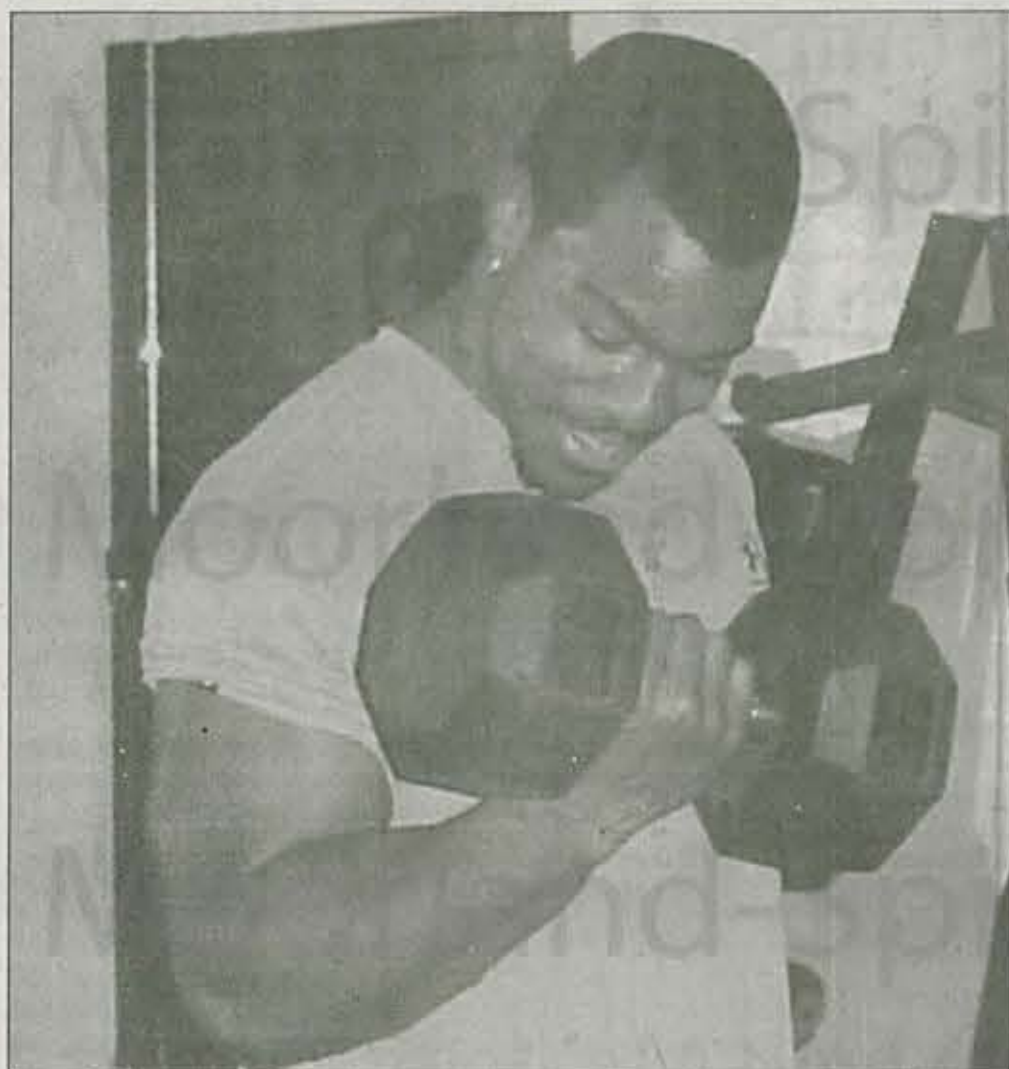
Applications are due: Monday, February 24, 2003 by 5pm.

Interviews will be scheduled for Thursday, March 27, 2003 starting at 6pm.

Need more information or have questions?  
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# HEALTH & FITNESS



PHOTOS BY CHANTAL NCHAKO & MAYA GILLIAM

These Howard University athletes are working out in order to stay in shape for their particular sports. At left, Tracy White, right, Daisha Hicks.

## Howard's Athletes Share Their Fitness Regimens

By Lauren Childress  
Contributing Writer

Staying healthy and fit can be extremely challenging for the average student. Aside from homesickness, heavy course loads and extracurricular activities, freshmen are not the only ones who have to beware putting on weight. Here are some outstanding athletes at Howard who have figured out how to balance a full course load and find time to keep in shape and maintain their health.

**Daisha Hicks**  
**Height:** 5'8  
**Weight:** 150 lbs.  
**Major:** Marketing  
**Sport:** Basketball

Sophomore point guard, Daisha Hicks, is no stranger when it comes to hard work, teamwork, and discipline. With the Lady

Bison projected to win the 2003 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference regular season title for the second consecutive year, staying healthy is definitely a pivotal ingredient for the success of this determined athlete.

"It's not so much what you eat, it's how much you eat," said Hicks. "It's important for me to eat nutritious food like salads, vegetables, and pasta, which provide me with a lot of energy."

Hicks trained rigorously this past summer and presently keeps in shape by practicing two hours a day in Burr Gym, working one-on-one with her coach and weight training throughout the week.

Being a student as well as an athlete can be a heavy load at times, however, Hicks has a drive for the game which keeps her motivated to stay healthy.

"I love to play basketball and the better in shape I am, the better I play," said Hicks. "Taking care of my body benefits me and the

team and keeps me at a level to compete."

Off the court, Hicks enjoys jogging first thing in the morning to increase her energy level and believes it is possible for students who are not involved in a particular sport to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

"Stay away from eating late at night. Also try to include physical activity like an extended walk or jog and do it at least 2 to 3 times a week."

**Latoya Thomas**  
**Height:** 5'4 1/2  
**Weight:** 142 lbs.  
**Major:** Biology  
**Sport:** Softball  
**Position:** Outfield

Softball on campus was non-existent less than two years ago. Since then, sophomore Latoya Thomas along with her teammates and with the addition of a new coach, have been able to

achieve much success. However success has a high price, and staying in good shape is the cost.

"Last year we worked on conditioning and practiced every Tuesday and Thursday beginning at 6 am," said Thomas. "Now that the season has started we practice every day except for Wednesday."

Thomas is balancing a 17-credit workload this semester and still manages to work out on her own.

"Whenever I can, I lift free weights in the Towers weight room to work on upper body strength and I do crunches, lunges, squats, and jumping jacks in my room."

She tries to maintain a healthy diet including lots of fluids, vegetables, and carbohydrates. Thomas says with all the stress students face on a daily basis, eating only when hungry and making time for exercise is highly recommended.

"You don't have to overexert

yourself. Oftentimes people expect to see results as soon as they begin exercising," said Thomas. "It not only takes a lot of patience, but also people should remember that it's more important to stay healthy than to worry so much about losing weight."

**Tracey White**  
**Height:** 6 ft.  
**Weight:** 230 lbs.  
**Major:** Speech Pathology  
**Sport:** Football

With graduation near for most seniors on campus, getting in shape is probably one of many things on everyone's "to-do before I graduate" list. For senior linebacker Tracey White, however, staying in shape is a must.

With football season over, White is looking forward to being drafted in the NFL after graduation. He hopes to play for the Philadelphia Eagles or the Tampa

Bay Buccaneers.

White maintains his health and strength by maintaining a diet high in protein and alternating his weight training exercises.

"One day I'll focus on upper body strength, doing push-ups, arm curls, bench presses, and triceps extensions," said White. "The next day, I'll work on lower body strength, focusing on leg curls, leg extensions and squats."

White includes in his weekly activities a variety of sprints and runs 2 to 3 times a week. White also said he stays away from greasy foods like red meat and junk food and stays motivated by future aspirations of success in the NFL and living a healthy life.

"Exercising leads to a healthier life and a longer life," said White. "Plus the better shape I'm in the better athlete I will become and the better I'll feel."

## Progress in HIV Studies: Virus Said to Block Effects of HIV

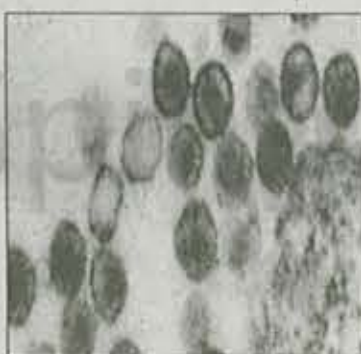
By David Johns  
Hilltop Staff Writer

A seemingly harmless hepatitis virus appears to block the ability for the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) to infect blood cells. Scientists say the GB virus C (GBV-C), known for not causing a disease, despite being a designated hepatitis G virus, is believed to thwart HIV's ability to infect blood cells by removing one of the chemical ports that HIV needs to make its entry into the blood stream.

Like HIV, GBV-C is trans-

mitted primarily through blood contact or sex.

The Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) virus uses three different chemical spots as attachment points to enter cells. A team of doctors headed by Jack Stapleton, a doctor at the University of Iowa, presented their findings at the 10 Conference of Retroviruses. Stapleton's team found that if the body is already infected with GBV-C, it makes fewer copies of one of these chemicals, called CCR5, effectively shutting out the HIV virus.



FILE PHOTO

A newly found virus may make headway in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Research conducted by doctors from the Department of

Gastroenterology and Hepatology and the Department of Clinical Immunology in Hannover, Germany, showed that long-term studies of patients who were carriers of the flavivirus GB virus and HIV had improved mortality. Among the patients who tested positive for GBV-C, survival was significantly longer, and there was a slower progression to AIDS.

Additionally, a study by Carolyn Williams of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases who monitored 271 men who contracted HIV in 1985, showed claims sur-

rounding the GB virus.

After eleven years of study, 75 percent of those with GBV-C were still alive, compared with 39 percent who had never been infected with GBV-C and the remaining 16 percent who initially tested positive for the GBV-C virus but then lost it. Improvements in drugs available to patients infected with the HIV virus may also increase the likelihood of survival of infected with both viruses.

GBV-C is not known to cause any disease but it is possible that its presence leads to an inhibition of HIV replication.

Studies are also being conducted exploring the relationship of the GBV-C virus as a marker for the presence of other factors that could produce the inverse affect. Arguments opposing the deliberate infection of HIV patients with the GBV-C virus are being proposed by researchers who raise ethical concerns surrounding the recent findings.

Compiled from articles from Associated Press and the New England Journal of Medicine.

## Commemorating Our Leaders In

By Keila Foster  
Contributing Writer

Charles Drew was born on June 3, 1904 in Washington, D.C., the eldest of five children. Drew was one of those rare individuals who seemed to excel at everything he did and on every level and would go on to become a pioneer in the field of medicine.

Drew, who became a doctor, went to school in D.C., where his early interests were in athletics. After graduation from Dunbar High School in 1922, he went on to attend Amherst College in Massachusetts.

At Amherst, Drew was a

**Dr. Charles Drew**  
**(1904-1950)**

captain on the track team and starred as a halfback on the school's football team. In addition, he won the Thomas W. Ashley Memorial trophy in his junior year as the team's most valuable player.

After graduation from Amherst, Drew took on a position as a biology teacher at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland and also served as the school's Athletic Director. During his two years there, he helped to turn the school's basketball and football



Dr. Charles Drew

programs into collegiate championships.

See DREW page A8

## Recipe of the Week

### SKILLET TURKEY, VEGETABLES AND PASTA

1 Pkg fresh ground turkey  
1 tablespoon olive oil  
1 cup chopped onion  
2 garlic cloves, minced  
chopped fresh basil to taste  
2 cups broccoli florets  
2 cups chopped fresh tomatoes  
1 teaspoon lemon pepper  
8-oz spinach fettuccini, cooked, drained  
2-4 tablespoons Parmesan cheese

Heat oil in 12-inch skillet over medium heat for 1 minute. Crumble turkey into skillet; add onion, garlic and basil. Cook and stir for 5 to 7 minutes, or until turkey is no longer pink. Add broccoli, tomatoes and lemon pepper. Cook and stir for 3 to 5 minutes until broccoli is tender. To serve, arrange hot pasta and turkey mixture on large plate. Sprinkle with cheese. Serves 5.

1 serving provides:  
calories: 325  
fat: 5g  
carbohydrates: 43g  
cholesterol: 48mg

Health Benefit: Garlic reduces heart disease



Compiled by Reynolette Ettisonoffe



# NEWS

## Students Get Creative Dealing with 'Cabin Fever'

FEVER from A1

of choice: a tray "borrowed" from the cafeteria in Blackburn Center.

As evening fell, McNair opted for a more grown-up form of entertainment, traveling to Union Station with a few friends to see "Deliver Us From Eva." The trip took longer than usual; the group waited nearly an hour for a Metro train to arrive.

Meridian resident Nikkia Matthews didn't fight the cold weather at all. Her extra time was spent downloading music and sleeping. She finally ventured outside her room on Monday, going the grocery store and CVS for food.

Pre-med student Tia Williams didn't have the option of staying in. She was required to attend two 8-hour classes at the National Institutes of Health in Maryland, arriving early Friday and Saturday mornings by Metro.

Sunday, Williams snuggled up in her bed in the Bethune Annex to recover from weathering the cold two days in a row.

Eventually cabin fever got the best of her; Monday night she and two friends were hurling snowballs at cars and passers-by in front of the Towers.

While Williams and her accomplices terrorized innocent bystanders outside, inside the West Towers news of "No school on Tuesday" brought out the bad kid in quite a few residents. Some played hide-and-seek, and others ran up and down hallways, knocking on suite doors.

Regina Rivers, a West Towers resident engaged in a game of "hide and seek" with about twenty other students in the West on Sunday night.

"We played on three different floors using the laundry and study rooms as bases," Rivers said. "We played until we were exhausted."

Lucia Hassell, a Towers resident, was too busy shoveling to participate in the festivities. A friend from Virginia had come up to visit for the weekend; now his car was stuck in front of the Towers.

The pair was able to help three other cars out of the snow, even receiving a gallon of milk from a grateful student who was going to the grocery store.

Hassell said a lot of people were outside helping each other.

"Howard has a lot of love. You could just feel it," Hassell said. "Besides, campus police were just standing there, looking at us."

Although all other University activities were cancelled, Monday night's basketball game against Florida A&M wasn't, giving restless students something non-delinquent to do. According to McNair, who plays in the pep band, tickets were not being checked at the door.

"They were just letting people in," she said.

The Burr received a nice turnout — and then became the scene of more criminal snow activity after the Bisons' 74-68 victory.

## Bush Nominates Three Howardites

NOMINATION from A1

tives, increasing policies and provisions to govern the role of governmental agencies, academic institutions, and private and public corporations in health practices.

Since the inception of the President's Cancer Panel, members have addressed concerns, including the role of poverty in infecting the passage of disease, challenges facing scientists and progressive research, monitoring and initiating developments in research and treatment, and regulating the role of cancer-related voluntary organizations in providing adequate and un-biased service to the public.

Similarly Fleming, who earned both a master's degree

and a PhD from Howard University, has been appointed as a member of the National Museum of African History and Culture Plan for Action.

The bill that initiated the formation of the African History Plan for Action was signed on December 21st, 2001. It began as a plan to establish the national Museum in Washington, D.C.

Operating under park services, a branch of the Department of Interior, the committee is responsible for the maintenance and management of the museum designed to showcase 400 years of African-American history and culture, as well as implement programs that educate all races about the history and culture of African-Americans.

Judith N. Macaluso, a magis-

trate judge with the Superior Court in DC, is awaiting the consent of the senate committee on governmental affairs to decide on her nomination by the president.

Macaluso would serve as an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The term extends for fifteen years and is the product of a House Bill created via the DC Family Court Act of 2001.

The position would require Macaluso to serve for five years within the family court division, but the remaining 10 years of her term could be spent in other divisions.

The appointment as an Associate Judge to the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia would require Macaluso to handle classes, by jurisdiction, specif-

ic to the family court division, on cases whose origins or proceedings pertain to Title 11 section 1101.

The responsibilities of Macaluso would include, but are not limited to: child protection in cases of abuse and neglect, juvenile delinquency, children needing supervisory care (which includes cases where care giver(s) find a child ungovernable), domestic violence cases in pre-view of family court, divorce, child custody, alimony, adoption, and termination of parental rights.

These presidential appointments represent a small portion of Howard alumni who are living up to the legacy of creating leaders for America and the global community.

## Charles Drew, A Black Medical Pioneer

DREW from A7

In 1933, Drew received his medical degree from McGill University School of Medicine and continued his studies at Columbia University as a Rockefeller Foundation Research Fellowship, where he wrote a thesis entitled "Banked Blood."

In 1939, he married Lenore Robbins, with whom he had four children. In 1940, Drew was asked to help administer the Blood Transformation Betterment Association in New York, which the Red Cross sup-

ported financially. The same year, he developed a system to produce plasma, separating it from the blood matter. A year later, he became the first medical director of the first American Red Cross Blood Bank at Presbyterian Hospital in New York City, which produced dried plasma that could be preserved longer than the liquid plasma.

The pioneering medical work of Charles Drew, a distinguished African American, saved the lives of thousands of wounded Allied servicemen in London during World War II.

In 1942, Drew returned to

Washington D.C., where he became head of Howard University's Department of Surgery and Chief Surgeon at Freedman's Hospital.

In 1944 He received the NAACP's Springarn Medal for his work in the British and American blood plasma projects.

Drew was soon promoted to hospital chief of staff and medical director, a position he held until 1948. In 1950, he was killed in an automobile accident on his way to a medical conference. Drew suffered extensive massive injuries but contrary to popular

legend was not denied a blood transfusion by an all-white hospital — he indeed received a transfusion but was beyond the help of the experienced physicians attending to him.

The Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science in Los Angeles, California along with the freshman boys' dormitory Drew Hall at Howard University, and a U.S. postage stamp issued in 1981 have been named in honor of Charles Drew and his myriad accomplishments.



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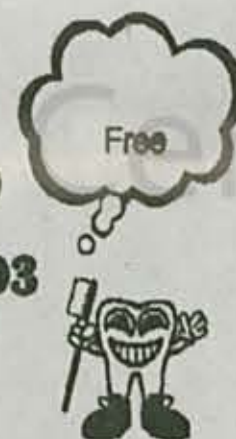
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Sandra N Barrett	Kasim I George	Solaida T George	Craig H Jelks	Gaelle O Mbeyadoba	Paul A Phifer	Kemari R Smith	Pollyanna S Williams
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Nisha N Brooks	Clive D Drayton	Brian H Kasoro	Udodirum O Kaja	Tashina Y Moore	Melissa T Rieta	Shane A Tate	Shane A Tate
Brandon O Brown	Phillip C Duffy	Sekinat T Kassim	Maria A Kane	Candace S Moorehead	Allana N Roach	Mona A Taylor	Venus B Taylor
Fatimah S Brown	Michelle M Duguid	Kristen N Kenan	Brian H Kasoro	Jason A Morancie	Annie S Roberts	Lidia T Tekle	Lidia T Tekle
Jasmine M Brown	Shelley M Dunn	Aisha N Kendall	Sekinat T Kassim	Ayisha A Morgan-Lee	Jacquetta T Roberts	Monica D Temprow	Monica D Temprow
Melissa V Brown	Danielle M Durham	Yolonda V Kerney	Kristen N Kenan	Nicholas I Morris	Lakesha Robinson	Ashleigh R Terrell	Ashleigh R Terrell
Satara A Brown	Ashley S Edwards	Shane M Khan	Aisha N Kendall	Kasey Y Morrison	Preston J Robinson	Semhar Z Tewelde	Semhar Z Tewelde
Atyia M Brown	Jimmy K Edwards	Kawana T King	Yolonda V Kerney	Maya M Morton	Mark A Robinson	Kristin M Thelemaque	Kristin M Thelemaque
Avione A Brown	Ugochukwu O Egomum	Kimberly N King	Shane M Khan	Candice I Mosby	Stephen E Robinson	Jamilla N Thomas	Jamilla N Thomas
Danielle N Brown	Harold J Eichelberger	Colette Kirk	Keith W Harris	Courtney R Mosby	Aliya S Rucker	Sasha A Thomas	Sasha A Thomas
Nadia E Brown	Erin M Elliott	Karmen T Kizzie	Mark E Harris	Gyasi E Moscou-Jackson	Ife Rodney	Tamara Thomas	Tamara Thomas
Nicole S Brown-Sharpe	Jessica L Ellis	Tylon D Kondowe	Alice L Harris	Nicole A Moss	Natasha A Rodney	Doria E Thomas	Doria E Thomas
Alma C Bryan	Raven I Elosiebo	Alicia R LaChapelle	Cenobia Harris	Claudia C Mouamba	Erika T Rollins-Tappin	Tiffani L Thomas	Tiffani L Thomas
Sheena R Bryant	Lakiya C Emerson	Meredith K Lane	Lasana T Harris	Nichole J Mounsey	Darlene J Romious	Kerel V Thompson	Kerel V Thompson
Tracy L Burns	Akunna E Enwereuzor	Patricia E Lane	Elizabeth Harrison	Kadia Y Mullings	Lesley-Ann Roper	Keishia M Thorpe	Keishia M Thorpe
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			Melanie M Henderson				

In your honor for making the Dean's List, we invite you to  
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College of Medicine Auditorium, Room 3019

Speaker: The Honorable David Dinkins, Former Mayor of New York City

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Of the 499 students cited in the 11-member MEAC, 95 (20%) are Bison!

Howard had 39.7% more honorees than did the second-ranked school.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENT-ATHLETES, COACHES, FACULTY AND STAFF !!

### WOMEN:

Essence Coggins, women's basketball, 3.27 in human development; Shauna Lee Ruglass, women's basketball, 3.14 in journalism; Danielle Shelton, women's basketball, 3.11 in information systems; Lauren Wiggins, women's basketball, 3.00 in finance; Lillibeth Jones, women's bowling, 3.40 in accounting; **Chizoba Egbuonu, women's lacrosse, 4.00 in finance**; Anisha Malik, women's lacrosse, 3.23 in international studies; Elisha Newsome, women's lacrosse, 3.67 in marketing; Eva Okereke, women's lacrosse, 3.36 in nursing; Maya Watkins, women's lacrosse, 3.20 in occupational therapy; Melissa Fletcher, women's softball, 3.20 in chemistry; Tracy Hunter, women's softball, 3.78 in business management; Tamra Jordan, women's softball, 3.80 in political science; Travette McNair, women's softball, 3.80 in psychology; Krissy Posey, women's softball, 3.68 in public relations; Shelby Smith, women's softball, 3.35 in marketing; Andrea Watkins, women's softball, 3.87 in mathematics; Monique Caruth, women's soccer, 3.87 in physical therapy; Sakira Cook, women's soccer, 3.22 in international business; Tiffany Day, women's soccer, 3.88 in business management; Meghan Drayton, women's soccer, 3.46 in biology; Jocelyn Fisher, women's soccer, 3.10 in biology; **Stephanie Hines, women's soccer, 4.00 in journalism**; Katrina Hines, women's soccer, 3.08 in accounting; Candace Jones, women's soccer, 3.20 in biology; Miriam Lynch, women's swimming and diving, 3.00 in international business; Oninyechukwu Monu, women's swimming and diving, 3.26 in information systems; Isoke Roundtree, women's swimming and diving, 3.20 in biology; Elena Branker, women's tennis, 3.11 in biology; Nicole Williford, women's tennis, 3.08 in psychology; Margaret Alexander, women's volleyball, 3.20 in public relations; Crystal Amadee, women's volleyball, 3.56 in physical therapy; Jeri Hayes, women's volleyball, 3.46 in radiation therapy; Markezia Jennings, women's volleyball, 3.43 in international business; Laura Rivers, women's volleyball, 3.57 in administration of justice; Dawn Thomas, women's volleyball, 3.56 in radiation therapy; Delores Whiteing, women's volleyball, 3.52 in radiation therapy; Shannon Chism, women's track and field, 3.40 in physical therapy; Phakiso Collins, women's track and field, 3.60 in dance; Alicia Melton, women's track and field, 3.60 in RTVF; **Krystal Perkins, women's track and field, 3.70 in nursing**; Leonie Prao, women's track and field, 3.70 in biology; Jodi Reid, women's track and field, 3.10 in public relations; Lakesha Richmond, women's track and field, 3.80 in marketing; Sherita Rogers, women's track and field, 3.0 in chemical engineering; Keisha Thorpe, women's track and field, 3.50 in English; Ramsi Bethany, women's track and field, 3.10 in pharmacy.



**LEGEND:** 4.00 in **RED**; 3.7 and above in **BOLD**; BB-Baseball; MB-Men's Basketball; WB-Women's Basketball; BO-Bowling; FB-Football; GO-Men's Golf; WG-Women's Golf; LX-Lacrosse; ME-Men's Tennis; SB-Softball; SL-Sailing; MSC-Men's Soccer; WSC-Women's Soccer; MSW-Men's Swimming; WSW-Women's Swimming; WE-Women's Tennis; MT-Men's Track & Field; VB-Volleyball; WT-Women's Track & Field;



### MEN:

Uluwaseye (Seye) Aluko, men's basketball, 3.02 in psychology; **Ronald Miller, men's basketball, 3.83 in English**; Johnnie Barnes, football, 3.02 in communications; Johnathan Brewer, football, 3.09 in radio production; Donald Clark, football/men's basketball, 3.35 in accounting; Ronald Jay Colbert, football, 3.21 in administration of justice; Jonathan Howard, football, 3.52 in physical therapy; Donald Lank, football, 3.21 in marketing; Marcos Moreno, football, 3.29 in graphic design; Marques Ogden, football, 3.40 in finance; Mark Owens, football, 3.59 in marketing; Rontarius Robinson, football, 3.00 in sports administration; Kevin Simmonds, football, 3.43 in business; Tracy White, football, 3.11 in speech pathology; Charles Woodall, football, 3.00 in human development; William Brickers, baseball, 3.29 in psychology; Derrick Brown, baseball, 3.55 in journalism; Erik Causey, baseball, 3.60 in business administration; **Anthony McCoy, baseball, 3.80 in finance**; James Blanton, wrestling, 3.50 in history; **Brandon Hogan, wrestling, 4.00 in political science**; Chad Malone, wrestling, 3.60 in pre-physical therapy; **Torrence Reginlad, wrestling, 3.90 in marketing**; Ephraim Walker, wrestling, 3.60 in business administration; Adetola Adewodu, men's track and field, 3.13 in computer science; **Troy McArthur, men's track and field, 3.82 in physical education**; Tariq Mix, men's track and field, 3.40 in art design; Michael Sampson, men's track and field, 3.25 in marketing; Charles Settles, men's track and field, 3.25 in physical therapy; Nicholas Wright, men's track and field, 3.20 in business; Dwayne Pagon, men's tennis, 3.51 in finance; Afolabi Adeleke-Adedoyin, men's swimming and diving, 3.10 in computer science; Olufolahan Oluwole, men's swimming and diving, 3.55 in international business; Ian Perry-Okpara, men's swimming and diving, 3.16 in business; Andrew Ricketts, men's swimming and diving, 3.65 in electrical engineering; **George Adu, men's soccer, 3.80 in political science**; **Robert Boone, men's soccer, 3.81 in political science**; Gregory Catching, men's soccer, 3.80 in biology; Royce Francis, men's soccer, 3.54 in civil engineering; **Ronald Goodlett, men's soccer, 4.00 in biology**; John Henderson, men's soccer, 3.00 in finance; Jimmy Hernandez, men's soccer, 3.90 in electronic studio; Jelani Scott, men's soccer, 3.52 in business administration; Christopher Serrano, men's soccer, 3.21 in international business; Michael Simontacchi-Gholagah, men's soccer, 3.88 in chemistry; Nadir Wade, men's soccer, 3.00 in electrical engineering; Brian Woodward, men's soccer, 3.75 in history.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BISON AND LADY BISON BASKETBALL TEAMS

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Division of Student Affairs

February 2003



# It's Showtime for Lil' Kim

By Veronica-Marché Miller  
Hilltop Staff Writer

First, they dropped an album. Then they performed alongside Ja Rule and Ashanti at the NFL's NFC Championship game in Philadelphia. And tonight they will be seen on BET's "106 & Park" in Lil' Kim's new music video. No, it is not another teenaged dancing R&B foursome. They are Howard University's own Showtime Marching Band, and they have been doing big things.

The band directors are on a mission to make Showtime a nationally-recognized band, putting them in the same category as other HBCU marching bands such as Grambling, Southern, and Florida A&M.

Their most recent adventure involved scantily-clad extras, video cameras, and rap's "Queen Bee." Hurried onto a charter bus into New York City, 10 male members of

Showtime were transformed into moving, shaking, instrument-playing thugs, dressed in all black and dancing behind Lil' Kim in her video "The Jump Off."

The single is the first from her third album, "La Bella Mafia," scheduled for release on March 4.

Set in a gilded NYC restaurant, "The Jump Off" is an ultra-hype performance video that also features Mr. Cheeks of the Lost Boyz.

Showtime received the call to appear in the video on a Friday, and left D.C. the next morning.

They arrived on set and began shooting at 4 p.m., filming and re-filming a routine made especially for the video. Even though they were given instruments that were made for concert (not marching) bands, they proceeded to perform non-stop until 7 p.m. After a welcome break, shooting resumed at midnight when Lil' Kim arrived.

"When Kim arrived, the whole atmosphere changed," freshman DiTaylor Edmonds, who played saxophone in the video, says. "The routine had to be adjusted, and the crowd went from being pretty to being hype. It was like a giant party."

However, most parties do not last ten hours. Shooting lasted until 12 a.m., but Showtime enjoyed a few perks for their hard work. Lil' Kim graced them with autographs while fellow rapper Ms. Jade personally greeted them. The band was also served a little taste of luxury with imported Artesian spring water.

"It's the purest water you'll ever taste," Edmonds says. "I brought some home with me."

Although band director, John Newson, has worked on music videos before, it was a first for Showtime.

The "hurry-up and wait" process of the shoot did not surprise Edmonds; he also

appeared in "Drumline," which was in theaters this past winter. For him, numerous takes were familiar territory.

"They played that song so many times," he says, shaking his head. "I know all the words now. And every time I hear it I bust out with the dance. I can tell you where I was, what I was doing, what I was wearing, whenever it comes on."

For the students, the experience was certainly eye-opening — and not just because of the long hours and repetitive routines.

"There was a whole lot of 'this-and-that' everywhere," Edmonds said, referring to nearly-naked female extras who were cast as club-goers. Smiling, Newson recalled that the draining shoot was slightly rewarding for the students. "As long as they got to look at Lil' Kim, they were happy."



PHOTO COURTESY OF VIBE.COM  
The "Queen Bee" and Howard University's own Showtime Marching Band will appear together in her video for "The Jump Off" on BET's "106 & Park."

## 'Dark Blue' Almost Sees the Light

By Phillip Murray  
Contributing Writer

### Grade: C

"Dark Blue," directed by Ron Shelton, takes place in Los Angeles in 1992, at the same time as the Rodney King trial. The trial is a backdrop for the story of Eldin Perry.

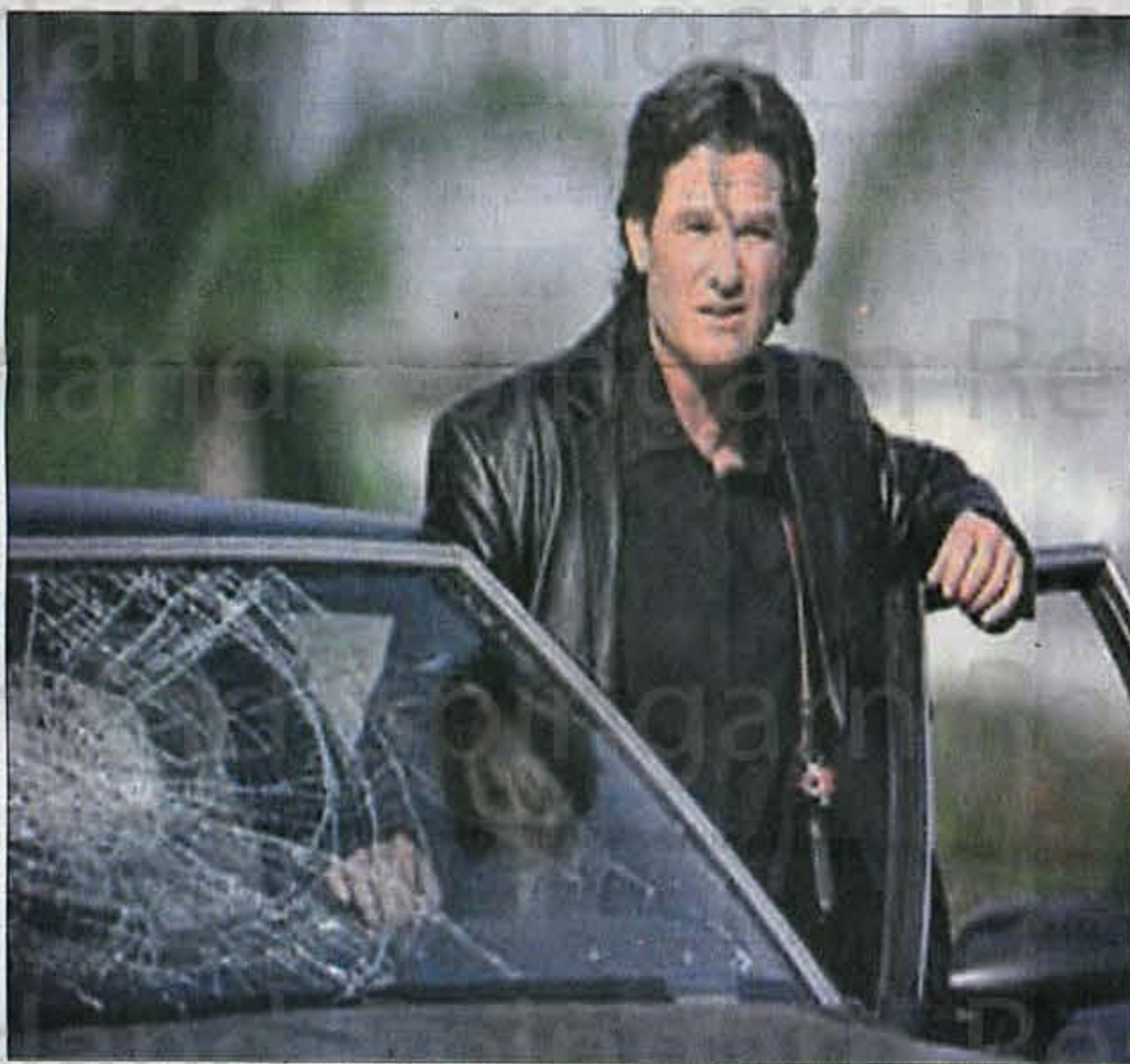
Played by Kurt Russell, Perry is an alcoholic third generation police officer who believes in getting things done by any means necessary. He uses brute force to get what he wants, and what he wants is usually dictated to him by his superior, James Van Meter (Brendan Gleeson).

The movie opens with Perry sitting in a room with a disturbed look on his face. He abruptly gets up and loads a bag with guns and ammo. He then leaves the room and the movie rewinds five days prior.

It's a police hearing. Five judges sit on a board asking Bobby Keough (Scott Speedman) about a case where he had to use deadly force to take down a suspect. Four of the judges questions are vague and easy.

The other judge, James Holland, asks questions to prove Keough is lying.

Played by Ving Rhames, Holland represents the right side of the law. He believes in the justice system and wants to cleanse all of the corruption. After the hear-



Kurt Russell plays a third generation cop with a big chip on his shoulder during the conflict, riots and turmoil surrounding the Rodney King beating in Los Angeles in 1992.

ing, he has a lot of work to do. The white cops congratulate themselves on a job well done by ducking the verdict.

While the police hearing is going on, the movie shows what is happening across town. Two men are sitting in a car discussing the Rodney

King trial. They then put on ski masks and rob a corner store. They take a safe and leave.

The rest of the movie is driven by Keough and Perry trying to find the men who robbed the store. They shake down people in the street

and do almost anything they have to, to find the culprits. When they find the guilty people, they are forced to pin the crime on other suspects, and this is the movie's turn-

See BLUE page B2

## Dave Chappelle: 'Don't Take Me Seriously'

By Chris Lecky  
Hilltop Staff Writer

You may have seen him on "Def Comedy Jam," in the movie "Half-Baked," or on one of his own stand up tours. He is D.C.'s own funny man Dave Chappelle.

With the recent success of his new variety show on Comedy Central, "The Dave Chappelle Show," and an upcoming comedy tour, Chappelle has been a hot topic. This week, he gave The Hilltop an interview and discussed his past, present, and future projects.

Hilltop: When did you first get the idea to do the show?

Chappelle: Well I have wanted to do my own show since 1992, but back then I was more focused on my stand up act, and I really did not have the resources to do my own show. After the success of "Half Baked," Comedy Central gave me the opportunity to do the show and I jumped on it.

H: What audience is your show geared towards?

C: The show is geared towards people my age; young people are much bolder and accepting of my style of comedy.

H: What is the main objective of the "Dave Chappelle Show"?

C: Just to be funny and get my point of view on certain situations across without preaching.

H: A lot of people argue that half an hour is only enough time to get a taste of what Dave Chappelle has to offer, have you ever thought about expanding the show?

C: Yea, I have thought about it but a half hour alone is murder, between Neal [Brennan] and myself, we do all the writing for the show, so at this point it would be too big of a load to try and expand the show.

H: So how much control do you actually have over the decisions made in regards to the show?

C: I have a lot of the creative control on the show. A



PHOTO COURTESY OF COMEDY CENTRAL

Dave Chappelle hopes for success with his new comedy show.

committee votes on everything, but I have the final say.

H: One of the things that the show has been criticized for is the heavy use of the "N-word," how do you feel about that?

C: The word means a lot of different things to different people. That word is probably a lot harsher to my grandmother, who had to endure being called all types of names, but I grew up in an era where that is a word we use to show our camaraderie to one another. My main reason for using it on the show so much is to erase the hate behind the word and take away the power it once had.

H: What separates the "Dave Chappelle Show" from other variety shows such as the "Cedric the Entertainer Show" or "In Living Color"?

C: I'm just trying to reinvent the wheel, push the envelope, and be funny. It's a comedy show, the focus is on funny.

You can catch the "Dave Chappelle Show" on Wed. at 10:30 p.m., the show also encores on Thurs. at 12:30 a.m., Sat. at 12:30 a.m., Sun. at 1:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. This week's episode of the show will feature musical guest and Grammy nominee Fat Joe. You can also catch Chappelle on his "Black Villa" comedy tour, which is tentatively scheduled to swing through D.C. on April 5.

## Love's Fluidity in Floetry

By Harold Eichelberger  
Hilltop Staff Writer

With sensual skin and deep British accents, the ladies of Floetry produce a thick sound of United Kingdom soul fused with Philly incantations. This amalgamation is featured on their Dreamworks debut album "Floetic."

From the mouths of Marsha Ambrosius, the songstress, and Natalie Stewart, the floacist, these two ladies have garnered a significant amount of acclaim for their debut. With three Grammy nominations, two Soul Train nominations, and an NAACP Image Award nomination, Floetry has

built a substantial beginning for a musical career.

"We're so happy because we've worked very hard to get here," the artists say. "It is fantastic and overwhelming."

With both halves of Floetry being natural writers, each member brings a poetic essence to the ebb and flow of their music, as well as the music of other artists.

Both Ambrosius and Stewart began on the poetry cipher circuit in the United Kingdom and ended up in Philadelphia to create their demo. They recorded 11 songs

See FLOETRY page B2



FILE PHOTO

The duo Floetry makes a soulful debut with "Floetic".



## Dark Blue Falls Short

BLUE from B1

ing point. Keough and Perry have to cover their tracks, as well as dodge Holland.

The movie drags, but has its moments. Russell's monologues combined with a few unexpected plot twists keep the movie afloat. The movie does a good job at showing the racial tension during the time period.

Rhames plays a small but important role. He shows how black police officers felt during the time. They were conflicted over being true to their badge or their race.

The end sequence gives the movie a boost. It is here that Russell delivers the most important speech of the movie. If you liked 2001's "Training Day," this movie will hold your interest.

As Holland says in the film, "It's gonna get ugly

## 'FREEDOM: A History of US' at the Decatur House

By Veronica-March Miller  
Contributing Writer

The American ideal of freedom has changed along with the country since the Declaration of Independence was signed in the 18th century.

"FREEDOM: A History of US," a new exhibit featured at the Decatur House, documents this evolution with rare artifacts of American history.

Sponsored by General Electric and presented by Picture History, the exhibit features 200 pieces from two private collections; documents from the Gilder Lehrman Institute and photographs from the Meserve-Kunhardt Collection.

"FREEDOM" takes a look at the meaning of the word in the context of various eras in history, from the country's founding, to the aftermath of the Emancipation Proclamation, with a few pieces documenting the Civil Rights Movement. The exhibit is running in conjunction with an eight-week television series of the same title, which began airing on PBS in January.

Pieces include correspondence from George Washington in which he expresses his wish to abolish slavery, at a time when he owned 250 slaves; a letter from Frederick Douglass to his former master, telling him that he loved the family but hated slavery; and a poster reading "I Am a Man," from the sanitation workers march led by Dr. Martin Luther King on the day of his assassination.

The documents and photographs date as far back as 1776 and are still in good condition.

"The fact that these pieces have remained intact and so well-preserved is amazing," remarked Bruce Whitmarsh of the Decatur House.

Many of the artifacts have been privately collected and were never shown

publicly until now. Creases and discoloration show their age, but frames and glass display boxes have carefully protected them. The warm brick-red walls make the exhibit seem more like a home collection than a museum display, leaving visitors comfortable enough to draw close to read letters and examine photographs.

Other documents include photographs of President Lincoln that were subsequently used for the penny and \$5 bill; a broadside (a large poster used for advertisement) commanding "men of color" to fight in the Civil War; an 1845 printing of the Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave; a personal diary of a black soldier in the Civil War; and a patriotic 1864 lithograph of the Emancipation Proclamation designed by a 14-year-old San Francisco boy. There are also draft versions of the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution.

The Decatur House is an appropriate venue for such a collection, being that the building itself has a rich history.

It is one of the oldest surviving homes in Washington, built in 1818 by Benjamin Henry Latrobe, the "father of American architecture." The "FREEDOM" exhibit is held in a wing of the house once used as work and sleeping space for slaves.

The original exhibit opened in New York, but Washington is its second and final stop.

The Decatur House will host "FREEDOM" until March 16 and a traveling version of the exhibit will tour 20 more U.S. cities.

The Decatur House is located on the corner of H Street and Jackson Place. It is open between 10:00 AM and 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOORLAND-SPINGARN LIBRARY

Frederick Douglass and other historical, influential black Americans will be featured in an exhibit entitled "FREEDOM: A History of US" at the Decatur House from Monday to Friday of next week.

## Love's Fluidity in Floetry

FLOETRY from B1

within seven days.

"There was no intent of particular direction for our album. We were invited to a studio to cut records," Ambrosius says. "Purity, honesty, and truth of our music shine on this album. There was no format. Me and Nat call the album a mixed demo full of different varieties of music that people can feel."

Listening to the album, all the songs blend the sounds of jazz, hip-hop, soul, and R&B. It is a type of fusion reminiscent of the road traveled by jazz in the late 1960s early 1970s.

"We fused our own truths. We are a poet and a songstress," Stewart says. "Whatever music works for us we create on top of that. We created what it sounds like."

Upon the completion of any artistic creation, there is always room for reflection. For their album, Floetry has optimistic opinions of their work.

"Our album is full of perfect imperfections. We are comfortable with who we are and there is no dissatisfaction," Stewart says. "We are always reaching for perfection, embracing everything it is at the time. When you create, you have to create and move on. We love what we do."

Coming from London to Philadelphia to record an album is quite impressive. Growing up in London and being of African descent can be confusing to African Americans, although the duo interprets things a bit differently.

"Our parents raised us right. [Race] was not an issue while we were younger, but as we grew older, we experienced more," Ambrosius said. "America is a grandchild of Europe. There are similarities and differences between African-Americans and African-Europeans. Both experience the same cycles and struggles."

Even the representation of color in Britain has its contrasting differences with the states. "There are few superstars and few black millionaires. Britain is much smaller, very self-

contained and not as excessive as the United States because of its size. We are only a quota of three percent of the population," the duo says.

American soul and British soul share some bit of similarities. Each represents an aspect of the shared experiences of people of color.

"American soul has been duplicated. There are lots of pinnacles and heights. English soul has different influences and experiences including displacement," Stewart says.

No matter the feelings on either topic, Floetry has been tossed into the whole Neo-Soul resurgence spotlight with other artists such as Musiq, Jill Scott, Erykah Badu, Bilal, and D'Angelo.

"We appreciate the Neo-Soul compliment for what it is. It feels good to be in that category. We try not to be generalized. Music will be music at the end," Stewart said.

The ladies of Floetry have incredible writing credits, which include "Butterflies" with Michael Jackson from his 2001 "Invincible" album. They have also worked with Jill Scott, Bilal, Glenn Lewis, Faith Evans, and Brandy. Working with each of these artists in the studio was an atmosphere of pure creation for Floetry.

"We are creators, it sounds simple, you do it, and you must create. We realize that people are our peers. We would like to be fans, but it's work," Ambrosius says.

Whether Floetry is emceeing, singing, writing, recording, or opening for Erykah Badu, the duo represents the essence of creative mindscapes.

Both Ambrosius and Stewart possess something euphoric. "We are permanently in the zone," the two ladies say. "We really genuinely write all the time. It's just how we do. We give it 150 percent while experiencing building, giving, and growing. We want to spread love."

Floetry is currently on tour with Common, Talib Kweli, and Gang Starr. They will be appearing at the 9:30 Club on 815 V Street, NW on Wed. Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 1-800-955-5566 or log onto www.tickets.com.

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# SPORTS

## Men's Basketball Team Wins Fifth Game Straight



Senior guard Ron Williamson turned in his fourth 30-point performance in the Bison's victory over FAMU Tuesday.

By Paul Crewe  
Contributing Writer

For the fourth straight game, Ron Williamson has scored at least 30 points.

The Howard University men's basketball team also extended their winning streak to five with a 74-68 victory over the Florida A&M Rattlers on Tuesday in Burr Gymnasium.

It was a crucial game for both schools. Teams who finish in the top five in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference will receive a first round bye in the MEAC Tournament next month.

It was the sixth victory in the last seven games for the Bison; Williamson, who has been on fire, hit up the Rattlers for 34 points.

"This was a very important win for us. They'll be there in the tournament, but we showed the league that Howard (10-13, 8-6) is back and ready to play," Williamson said.

After the win, the Bison currently sit in fifth with four games remaining in the regular season. The Rattlers were bumped down to sixth.

FAMU (12-10, 7-6) had a three game winning streak of

their own before Tuesday's set back.

The Rattlers led 37-33 at the half behind their leading scorer Terrence Woods, who scored 16 in the first half. However, he was well defended in the second half and finished with 19.

Jermaine Hill led the Rattler squad that could not go away in the second half.

After struggling from the field in the first half, Williamson was able to settle down and find his shot far more effectively in the second half.

"My shots were there in the first half," Williamson said. "I started taking the ball to the basket more and we focused on playing more patiently on offense."

The Rattlers remained close and took the lead a few times with tough inside play as Hill scored a team high of 24 points and pulled in nine rebounds.

Neither team was able to establish a lead of more than four points until Williamson hit two free throws that gave the Bison a 72-66 advantage with 33 seconds remaining in the game.

Bison head coach, Frankie

Allen, acknowledged the strength the Rattlers inside game.

"We did a good job of hanging in there and making plays. They had good inside game going around wasn't what it could have been. It was a grinder, our guys just found a way to win," Allen said.

Kyle Williams scored 12 points and recorded six rebound of them coming off the offensive glass.

Also contributing to Howard's recent success has been the return of freshman point guard Louis Ford, who was named MEAC Rookie of the Week and is back from serving a nickname suspension.

Forced six points, dished six assists and committed one turnover in the game.

"I played a relief role with Rick [Williamson] and Kyle [Williams]. We tried to break down the defense, my role was to get them the ball," Ford said.

Sophomore Mac Wilkins, a Louisville transfer, is becoming a major factor after being forced to sit out for the first two games of the season due to CAA transfer regulations.

Wilkinson, who has been inconsistent in the past month of action, scored 18 points and pulled in five rebounds Tuesday. This followed a 17-point performance Saturday against Bethune-Cookman by the 6'9" forward.

The game was originally scheduled for Monday, but was postponed until Tuesday due to a heavy snowstorm, which blanketed the entire Washington, D.C. area.

"I'm glad we didn't have to postpone the game again. When you're playing well, you just want to go out there and play," Allen said.

Both Howard and FAMU will have tough games this Saturday as they square off with the number one and two teams in the conference standings.

The Rattlers will attempt to bounce back from their loss when they host the Hampton University Pirates (14-8, 10-3) in Tallahassee, Fla.

The Bison will take a nine-hour bus ride to Orangeburg, S.C., where they will take on the Bulldogs of South Carolina State University (13-8, 11-1), the top team in the MEAC.

## Ruglass, Kirk Lead Howard To Win Over Florida A&M

Courtesy of  
Bisonmania.com

Shauna Ruglass scored 11 of her 13 points in the second half and Courtney Kirk added 10 of her 14 after halftime as Howard University pulled away to a 92-75 win over Florida A&M University in a Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) women's game at Burr Gymnasium.

The win was the second straight and seventh in the last eight games for the Lady Bison (9-14 overall, 9-5 in the MEAC) while the Rattlerettes (12-10 overall, 8-5 in the MEAC) dropped their second straight.

Howard led 40-38 at the half despite shooting only 37 percent (16 of 43) from the field. A combination of the scoring of junior guard Simone Agee, who tallied 13 of her 18 points in the first half, along with a 12-4 advantage on second

and chance points, helped offset some balanced scoring from Florida A&M, who had three players score in double figures.

The Lady Bison began to reassert themselves in the second half as Ruglass, Kirk and Daisha Hicks (10 points, 7 assists) helped fuel a 26-12 run mid-way through the second half that all but put away the visitors. Howard continued its superiority on the boards and capitalized on 30 forced turnovers that they converted into 21 points.

"We were able to get some second chance opportunities and our [full-court] pressure in the second helped us get some easy transition baskets," said Howard head coach Cathy Parson. "We got a lot of people involved and it could not have come at a better time as we head into tournament play."

Reserves Brittany James

and Ebony Rector were surprise contributors. James, a freshman guard, scored a career-high 14 points and Rector, a senior guard added 13, also a career best, as the Howard bench out-scored Florida A&M, 28-20.

FAMU got another sterling effort from senior center Kim Watson, who recorded yet another double-double with 18 points and 11 rebounds and Yolando Dixon and Tene Miller, who added 15 and 11, respectively.

The Rattlerettes will try to stop their current slide when they host conference-leading Hampton University on Saturday at 2 p.m. in Tallahassee, Fla. Howard will try to extend its streak to three when they travel to Orangeburg, S.C. on Feb. 22 to take on the Lady Bulldogs of South Carolina State at 2 p.m.

## Lacrosse Team Prepares

By Soraya McDonald  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Last weekend the Lady Bison lacrosse team traveled to North Carolina to compete in the South of the Border Lacrosse exhibition games, which featured 33 teams from around the country.

The tournament was held on four fields simultaneously at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Duke University. The Lady Bison won three games, defeating UNC College, Washington and Lee University and Christopher Newport College. Their losses were to Ohio University and La Salle University.

The competition marks the beginning of the spring season for the team, in its sixth year of existence at Howard.

The Bison had strong offensive contributions from attacker Chizoba Egbuono and midfielder Melissa Bryant. Their solid defense



PHOTO BY: CHANTAL NCHAKO

The women's lacrosse team practices diligently in efforts to get ready for the next big game.

came in walk-on Kelly Chatman. "Tham's improvement from fall began to show at the South of the Border tournament," Chatman said.

"The stick skills and their passing and catching have improved tremendously," Lady Bison Head Coach Melinda Vaughn said. "Mentally, the team has

See LACROSS page B4

## Indoor Track Wraps Up, Outdoor Track Takes Off

By Soraya McDonald  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Today and tomorrow, 31 members of Howard's track team will compete in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) Championships at the Prince George's Sports and Learning Complex in Landover, Md.

Coach Michael Merritt said he was pleased with the way this year's indoor season went and he expects good things.

"Overall I think we had a very good year, much stronger compared to last season, so I'm hoping we'll do much better at the conference than last season," Merritt said.

Sophomore Erica Day expressed that she was not as prepared for the meet as she would like to be.

The weather conditions didn't help the Bison's training and practice.

Unseasonably cold weather and precipitation had been freezing on the track and it

made running on the track impossible.

The team was only able to practice about twice in the past two weeks.

"I think we can do pretty good. We need to get back into the swing of things and get some more practice in and get stronger, but I think we'll be alright," Day said.

The team found success during the indoor season at the US Coaches Association Indoor Track Meet at Penn State University where junior David Oliver placed first in the men's 60-meter hurdles event and Day placed first in the women's 400-meter dash.

Oliver is a provisional qualifier for the NCAA finals, taking place in March.

Merritt observed that after placing well in meets like Penn State and the Terrapin Invitational the team now realizes that they can compete against anyone in the country.

"You look at the Stanford's, you look at the North

Carolina's, you look at the Tennessee's and all of them — they're just names," Merritt said. "I told my previous teams, they eat the same food we do, they breathe the same air we do, they sleep the same way we do, and they even bleed red blood just like everyone else. They're no different and we're just as talented as they are."

Unfortunately, senior Taj Alvaranga's participation is questionable due to a groin injury, and senior Amanda Franklin has been sidelined due to an abdominal injury.

Indoor season is a stepping stone for outdoor.

"This injury has been a setback," said Franklin. "I'm starting in the weight room trying to get my abdomen stronger so that I don't risk injuring it during outdoor. Not only have I not only been able to compete, but I haven't been able to practice as well. I have a lot of work cut out for me, but I'm looking forward

See TRACK page B4



FILE PHOTO

David Oliver, a member on the Bison team, will defend his title in the upcoming MEAC championships.



# SPORTS

## Lacross Team Prepares for New Season

### LACROSS from B3

decided that they want to go to another level and that has made a big difference."

Since Howard's lacrosse team is still the only one in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC), they are considered an independent team.

"We're looking for one [a

conference] that's highly competitive," Vaughn said.

Egbuono, a senior finance major, exhibited confidence and excitement while the team made last minute preparations in front of Cook Hall before departing for the tournament.

"We have a lot of good recruits this year, a lot of good walk-ons," Egbuono said. "We also have a new

coach who's implementing a lot of different programs that are going to get us to the level where we need to be. We have a lot of talent and we've been working very hard. We're very unified this year."

The team has a new coach in Vaughn in her first year as head coach at Howard. Vaughn was an assistant coach before she left to pursue a law degree.

"It's been an amazing experience. When I was here two years ago as an assistant I developed a strong commitment to the team," Vaughn said, explaining her motivation for returning.

Not only does the lacrosse team have a new coach, it also boasts the largest recruiting class in its existence, which Vaughn is hoping will double next year.

Howard has two high-school All-Americans, Shatarah Ramirez and Brittany Merritt.

The lacrosse team, like the tennis and track teams, competes for the majority of the school year. Their fall games are mainly for practice, while the more significant matches take place in the spring season.

However, the Lady

Bison's biggest win of the fall came in a home match-up against St. Francis College of Pennsylvania, whom they defeated 23-3, with the help of Egbuono and freshman Eva Okereke.

"This could probably be the best season that Howard has had in its history," Vaughn said.

## Indoor Track Wraps Up, Outdoor Track Team Takes Off

### TRACK from B3

to outdoor because our girls team should produce big results this year."

After the NCAA Championships, which take place March 7-8 in Fayetteville, Arkansas, the outdoor track season will begin for the team, with their first meet at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, South Carolina.

There is a big transition from a 200-meter indoor track to a 400-meter outdoor track.

"Indoor gets you in shape and lets you see your competition," Day said. "And it shows me what I need to work on for myself."

The biggest changes however, come in the short sprints.

The 60-meter Dash and the 60-meter Hurdles are 100 meters and 110 meters, making conditioning and endurance much more important.

"Practice is harder. In indoor we would line up five hurdles and do drills. But in outdoor it's ten hurdles back to back," Oliver said. "In indoor you can get away with little mistakes because it's a short race. With 100 meters, if you mess up you'll fall and bust your behind."

The indoor season isn't just a measuring stick for the teams, there are some events

that can only take place outdoors. Teams will do the javelin, discus and 14X200 meters to their list.

The Bison are long forward to outdoor and sprint relays.

"We are a way longer team outdoor than indoor, you add the 4X100. We have one of the best 4X1's in the conference."

These are the individuals who qualified for indoor MEAC Conference:

#### Women:

Maya Caldwell- 800 meters

LaClaire Catlett- Long Jump, 55 and 200 meters

Phakiso Collins- 55 and 200 meters

Erica Day- 400 meters

Indira Garcia- Mile run and 3000 meters

Tasha Harris- 3000 meters

Alicia Moberg- 3000 meters

Nubia Murray- High Jump

Krystal Perkins- Relays

Lakesha Richmond- Triple Jump

Keisha Thrasher- 400 meters

Kendra Smith- Triple Jump

Ashley Vann- 30 meters

Michelle Willis- 400

meters

Thorne, Williston, Collins, Day- 4x400 meter relay

Garcia, Williston, Caldwell, Perkins- Distance Medley

Alternates: Shannon Chism- 4x400-meter and Distance medley relays

Men:

Adetla Adewodu- 400 meters

Taj Alaranga- 400 meters

Gerald Bright- Relays

Vaughn Cleveland- 55 meters

Jacoby DuBose- 55 meter hurdles

Lance Gross- Long Jump

Khary Kenyatta- 800 meters

Andrew Murphy- 200 meters

David Oliver- 55 meter hurdles

Donald Rhee- High Jump

Edgar Sars- Relays

Michael Simpson- Triple Jump

Leon Snyder- 800 meters

Dennis Washington- 200 meters

David Wynn- 800 meters

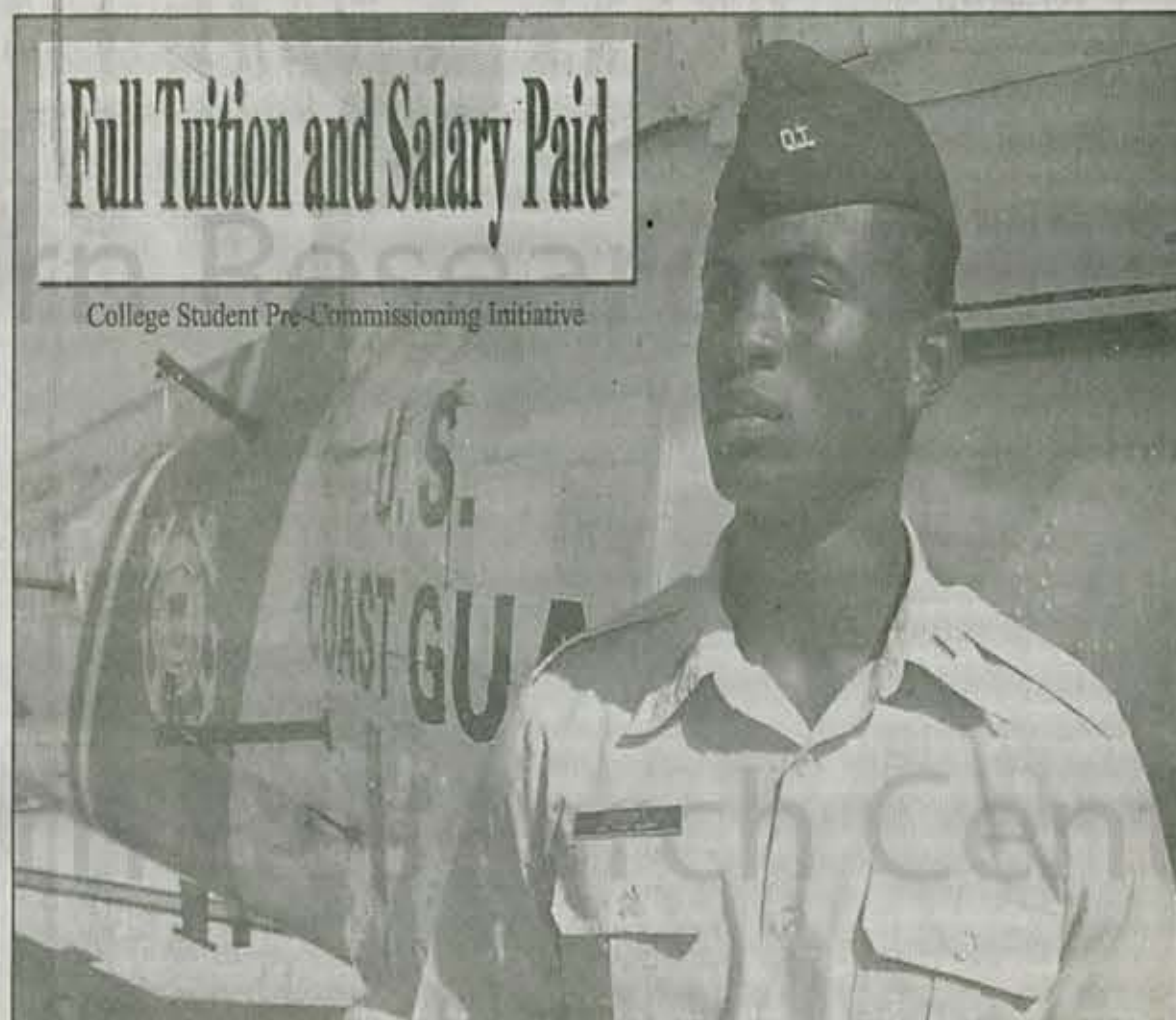
Adewodu, Gross, Oliver, Alaranga- 4x400-meter Relay

Snyder, Gross, Sams, Bright- Distance Medley Relay

Alternates: Andrew Murphy- 4x400 Relay

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# EDITORIALS



## The Dreaded Group Project

As college students, we have all been assigned group work at one point or another. While study groups are usually beneficial, it tends to be a completely different story when working with a group for a grade.

Simply put: we believe group projects are often unfair. Why? Well let us examine the members of the group.

First, there is always that lazy member who ends up doing the most minimum amount of work possible. He or she just doesn't seem to care if the group gets an A or an F. This member either gets away with doing nothing and getting the same grade as everyone else, or gets reported to the teacher by the other group members. The latter results in a whole new set of drama.

Second, there is the overzealous worker. This member wants the group to

meet ten times a week as if everyone else does not have four or five other classes to worry about. This person is usually annoyingly bossy and is the self-appointed group leader who chooses to delegate responsibility.

In other words, this member gets on everyone's nerves.

member will do his or her work on his or her own time and turn it in to the group whenever it is due. Until then, this person does not want to see or hear from the other group members. Basically, the whole concept of "group work" is lost.

Okay, so we know that the deeper meaning behind

group work is to learn to work well with others, as we will undoubtedly have to do in the real world.

However, if it is not working — FIX IT! Professors are intelligent men and women; therefore they must know what goes on when group projects are assigned. They

should reconsider the whole concept of group assignments and either come up with a more effective way to ensure total group participation, or just oust them altogether.

### Our View:

*Professors should rethink group project assignments because they tend to be unsuccessful.*

Last, but not least is the group member who just detaches him or herself from the rest of the group. This aloof person keeps it no secret that he or she doesn't do group work. Forget meetings and collaboration, this

## We're All Americans

Since Sept. 11, America has become home to many hate crimes against Muslims. People have ignorantly blamed an entire religious group for acts committed by a few extremists.

It is behavior like this which has plagued the United States since its founding and thus secured our position as the most hypocritical nation on earth.

As African Americans, we know all too well the pain and anger caused by hate. Our history is one inundated with discrimination, oppression, mistreatment, and injustice.

Thankfully, Muslims are not passively enduring the injustice and hate that has become directed toward them as of late. An Islamic advocacy group, the Council of American-Islamic Relations, recently launched a

campaign designed to counter the rising tide of anti-Muslim rhetoric in the United States.

The campaign is called "Islam in America" and the purpose is simply to educate the masses about the Islamic religion through newspaper ads. It will consist of a series of advertisements, the first of which was an ad in The New York Times appropriately enti-

found hate of Muslims is an unfortunate step backward into a time when groups like Blacks and Jews were viewed as sub-human. Hopefully, the campaign will successfully impact those ignorant to the principles of Islam.

Our understanding and consequential tolerance of Muslims entails so much more than that. It is indicative of our progress as a country. It is high time to put an end discrimination and hate against any group. Furthermore, it is time we put generalizations to rest. Of the estimated 1.2 billion Muslims worldwide, a very small percentage preaches hate and violence. It is cruel to ascribe these beliefs to all

### Our View:

*The media campaign to promote tolerance of Muslims is a positive movement that will educate many.*

tled "We're All Americans." It is important that people understand just that — that we are all Americans. This new-

Muslims.

## THE HILLTOP

The Student Voice of Howard University Since 1924

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CASSAUNDR CUMBESS, Editorial & Perspectives Editor

## 'Black' Slang in the Mouths of Whites

Black people have long caused Whites of "stealing our culture." From Eminem selling more rap albums than any black man ever has, to white girls spending hours in tanning booths to get the dark tone that comes naturally to those descendants of Mother Africa, Whites have taken what we deemed "us" and ran with it.

Well, if those examples are not enough for you, lately it has become uncomfortably clear that certain aspects of black culture are being imitated by mainstream white America. Specifically, it is our language being emulated now.

Need proof? Did you happen to see the CNN headline that read, "What's the Dealy Diddy?"

Well, if that is not enough, the night talk show personality,

Conan O'Brian, recently uttered the words "Fo' sheezy my neezy," on his show. There is a real problem with this. First of all, he has no business saying "my neezy."

stupid. As much as we hate to admit it, it was almost too easy for his imitation to make us look stupid. After all, by us using the word "nigger" as such a socially accepted term, we dress it up to appear endearing ("neezy"). We are in fact making ourselves look stupid.

Perhaps we should keep in mind that this was a word that served as a main tool in the degradation and humiliation of our forefathers.

### Our View:

*We do not think that it is funny for whites to imitate "black" slang in the media or elsewhere.*

Sugar coated or not, it is still an offensive and derogatory term, particularly when coming from someone who is not black. Second of all, it was a lame and disrespectful attempt to cause amusement at the cost of making black hip-hop terminology seem

We should be careful of what we say and we should think about the deeper meanings behind our everyday colloquialisms. White America is watching us, and unfortunately, it is not for the purpose of copying us to make us look good.

## THE HILLTOP

The Nation's Largest Black Collegiate Newspaper

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Now in its 78th year, The Hilltop is published every Tuesday and Friday by Howard University students. With a readership of more than 10,000, The Hilltop is the largest black collegiate newspaper in the nation. The opinions expressed on the Editorial Page are the views of The Hilltop Editorial Board and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Howard University, its administration, individual Board members or the student body.

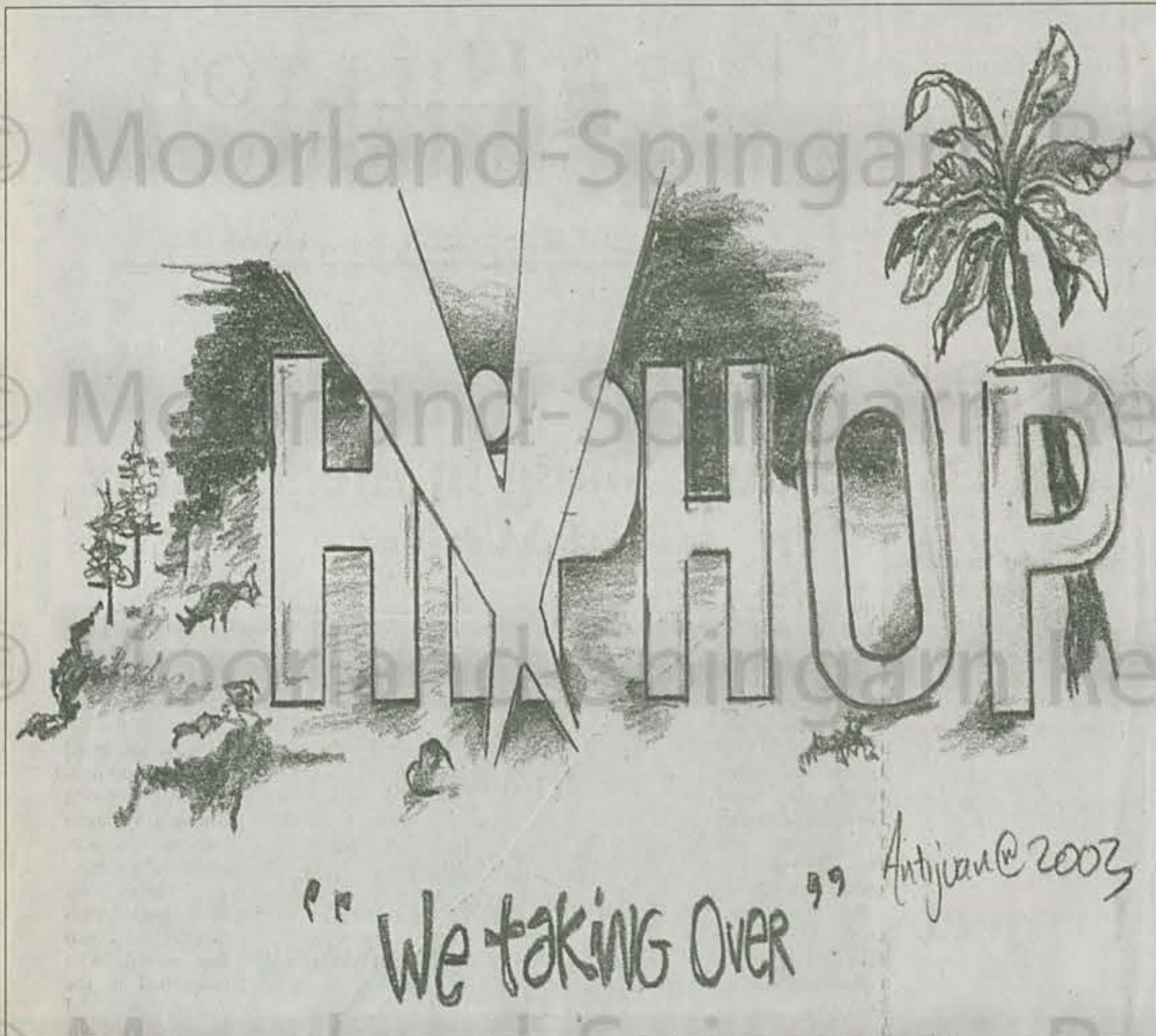
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The Hilltop encourages its readers to share their opinions with the newspaper through letters to The Editor or Perspectives. All letters should include a complete address and telephone number and should be sent electronically on our website at [www.thehilltoponline.com](http://www.thehilltoponline.com).

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The Hilltop reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammatical errors and any inappropriate, libelous or defamatory content. All letters must be submitted a week prior to publication.





## Snow Should Clear Before School Re-Opens

Stephanie Erhuch

I appreciate a snow day like anyone else. Turning on the news just to see the words HOWARD UNIVERSITY CLOSED brings delight not only to the

minds of students, but faculty and staff as well. When I turned on the

news at 5:30 a.m. on February 19, 2003 and discovered that school would

be open, I admit that I was upset. But, I assumed that administration decided to open because the conditions on campus were now feasible

for regularly scheduled weekly activity.

Being a student that lives off-campus, the journey to campus was not a pleasant one, however I did manage to get to campus on time to make my 8:00 a.m. class.

Imagine my irritation when I discovered, after waiting for my teacher for 20 minutes, that she wouldn't be coming to class. Naturally, I left class with a foul attitude because I could've gotten an extra hour of sleep.

In my quest to find somewhere to bide my time until my next class, I was met with treacherous conditions as I walked across campus. Snow covered many steps leading into buildings that students frequent (i.e. Physics building, Biology building, School of Education). It appeared as though no one even attempted to clear pathways to certain buildings and areas in the lower and upper quadrangle. As I looked even further, a couple of trucks were attempting to clear Howard Place and 6th Street, yet certain building entrances were sealed shut with snow. On

many occasions I almost slipped and fell trying to make it across a campus that was scheduled to be open.

My gripe is not with the custodial staff or with the many teachers who could not make it to their scheduled classes. I'm annoyed with administration for opening school when clearly this campus was not prepared to return to business as usual. If school is going to open

after hazardous weather conditions, wouldn't it only make sense to make

sure that the campus is safe for the transport and travel of students,

faculty, and staff? Even a delay of two hours would have made perfect

sense, but for whatever reason, someone decided that the school would be

ready for normal functioning at the normal time of

8:00 a.m.

Maybe the administration would like to call Prince George's Community College and the University of Maryland at College Park and ask them why they felt it wise to close school this week.

Or maybe a phone-call to Trinity and Galludet asking them why they felt it made sense to have a delay of a few hours? I'm all for returning to class, not only after a 4-day weekend but particularly since I repaid Howard for all these classes that I'm missing. But can someone please help me understand if any of that money is going towards a fund that will be given to students' medical expenses if they break their neck on their way to class due to unsafe conditions on campus?

## Taking the First Step to Mend a Friendship

Sara Howell  
Mustang Daily (California Poly State U.)

(U-WIRE) SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif. -

**Q: My friend and I had a huge falling out a few months ago and I really miss her. How can I let her know that I want to make amends?**

**A:** Well, you have already established yourself as the bigger person by deciding that you are willing to take steps to mend the fences. Usually the problem behind friendships abruptly ending and staying that way is a battle of the wills - who is going to cave first? By admitting you miss your friend and you want to rebuild the relationship, you have taken the ultimately hard, pride-gulping step that has kept you two apart for this long.

To re-establish a connection, there are many techniques. Depending on the circumstances of the falling out, one can choose any number of methods to open the lines of communication.

A Letter: The classic "I'm sorry and I miss you" letter works most of the time. By spilling your guts, you are putting yourself in a vulnerable position that the recipient can't ignore. A letter also gives you a chance to say everything that you are feeling in a completely uninterrupted way. You can organize your thoughts so that they read exactly how you want them to and there is no chance of accidentally saying something you don't mean.

However, be sure not to take an accusatory stance in the letter. While you should point out what it was that made you so angry initially, don't point fingers. And especially don't hail yourself as the most wonderful, forgiving person by pointing out that you were the bigger person by talking first.

A Phone Call: This method is a bit more risky and can be a bit scary at times. If your friend decides

to pick up the phone when she sees your number on caller ID, no doubt the ensuing conversation will be tense and awkward. You might be greeted with a flat "hello" or an excited "Hi!" or an unsure "Ummm, what's up?" Be prepared for some conversation prodding and be sure to say you are sorry. You can always open the conversation by saying "I just wanted to talk." It is important that both of you listen to what each other has to say. Chances are a huge misunderstanding and warped perceptions landed the two of you in your current situation, so try and understand where your friend is coming from - don't interrupt.

Tell a Friend: Tell a mutual friend that you are ready to talk and work things out, but make sure the message is delivered in the tone you intended. Sometimes, by using another person as your message bearer, the lines of communication can become more crossed and confusion arises as to the original meaning. Lines like "So-and-so is ready for you to apologize to her" definitely won't help the situation at all. Give specific instructions to your friend as to what she is and is not supposed to say. If you are the friend who is delivering this message, please be sure that you get it straight. Don't try to be the therapist and the go-between. Deliver your message and bolt; don't stick around for the drama.

While an unlimited amount of options float around to help you rebuild a friendship, taking that first step is definitely the challenging part. Communication is key. Chances are, your friend misses you too and wants to put the drama behind you. And for goodness sake, don't hold grudges! What's happened is in the past, can't be changed and happened for some unknown reason. Accept what happened and move on - you'll be a much happier person.

## Perceived Privilege or Reality: Relative and Personal

David Johns

After drafting a letter expressing my deepest sympathies for readers who misread, misinterpreted, and completely missed the entire essence of my perspectives, "The Best of Both Worlds" (Jan. 24) and "Perceived Privilege"

(Jan. 11,) I was forced to ponder the possible interpretations of my words.

"Perceived Privilege" included an explicit statement that my previous perspective was not "meant to be a critical assessment of HU against my home institution...nor was it a platform from which I attempted to proclaim a mastery over either structure."

While both of the previously published perspectives maintain that I was "attempting, through the article, to quell the impulse of the part of both students and faculty to

ask, 'what made you choose Howard?' Despite stating that the article was "a collection of thoughts and experiences thus far," I realize that a lot of my emotions, intentions, and words were lost in the transition from writer to editor back to writer back to editor all before being presented to the reader.

The fact remains that it is damn near impossible to compare an HBCU to a PWI (Predominantly White Institution) without resolving to the "superficial benefits" that quantify each experience to outsiders. In each case, exceptions often become the rule and students are able to identify with the good and bad at both institutions. Attributing one's emotional response to a critique of personal experiences at his or her institution, it comes as no surprise that words, filled with

beauty in description and ambiguity in intention, can often allow for multiple interpretations and leave room for misconstrued messages.

I will not invalidate the feelings of readers who felt slighted by my perspectives; rather I wish to draw the reader's attention to the fact that a lot happens when an article is submitted for publishing.

Over one hundred of the words included in my original statement were removed in editing my perspective for print. The removal of qualifying statements which referred to the ludicrousness of relying upon categorical markers such as those used by "US News and World Report," removed the explicit link to my assertion that "superficial" standards should not be used to determine one's desires from an institution.

Additionally, in removing

some portions of my perspective the reflections from a student at a PWIs who also faces challenges, intellectually and socially, the essence of my perspective, which attempted to illuminate the benefits of being able to experience the good and bad of both unique environments, was also removed.

Privileges taken when editing one's personal reflections should be done at the consent of the author. Additionally, it is important to urge people to understand that perspectives are just those. Intentions of an author are often lost when placed in the context of a readers mind.

I will be the first to acknowledge Howard's legacy as an institution rich in its intellectual, as well as social and political, history. Howard students are focused, critical thinkers, who represent Black

intellectuals from every walk of life, as are students at Columbia. The fact that graduate populations are comprised of graduates from Howard and other HBCUs can not be attributed to a perceived "ignorance" by a student from a PWI, as apart of the privilege afforded to me requires the recognition that when companies want to recruit black students they do it at a black school and graduate schools also actively recruit in a similar manner.

Similarly, anyone taking a class at Howard can see the 'not so superficial' effects that manifest themselves in teachers not having chalk, overcrowding in classes that result in students borrowing chairs from nearby classrooms, and bureaucratic policies and financial matters that can often force students to withdraw from schools. This is not

to say that these things do not affect students at PWIs, but the problems that exist there are also unique to that institution and more importantly, do not negatively affect one's overall experience and opinions about one's home institution.

I will not apologize for my thoughts. I am inclined to agree with anyone who asserts the inability to critique what surmounts to a conversation comparing Nike to Timberland. We all have choices and make decisions based upon personal variables and in the end be it "perception" or "reality," what does it really matter?

David Johns can be reached at blaquerhyme@yahoo.com.



# HILLTOPICS

All HILLTOPICS are due, paid in full, the Tuesday and Friday before publication date. Announcements by campus organizations for meetings, seminars or nonprofit are charged \$5 for the first 20 words and \$1 for every additional five words. Individuals advertising for the purpose of announcing a service, buying or selling are charged as local companies with a rate of \$10 for first 20 words and \$2 for every 5 words thereafter. Personal ads are \$2 for the first 10 words and \$1 for every additional 5 words.

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Applications are available: Howard University TRIO Programs Undergraduate Library Room L-41 (202) 806-5132 Application Deadline is March 28, 2003

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Cramton Auditorium

Monday, February 24  
DGH 201 7:20pm  
The Mis-Education of the Negro:  
A Panel Discussion

Tuesday, February 25  
Hilltop Lounge 7:20pm  
Jiggaboos and Wannabees:  
Conceptions of Beauty

Wednesday, February 26  
DGH 201 7:20pm  
Resume Writing Workshop

Thursday, February 27  
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I had a great time with you in Georgia this weekend. Now if everything goes as planned, hopefully we'll have an even better time in Hawaii... I can't wait!! Remember, today is the day so let's make it happen! -Your "Franchise" Player

Happy Birthday to our new star reporter-- David! Don't EVER go back to Columbia!

Maya-- you are the best. Keep banging out the photos!

Chandra-- hope your leg feels better!

Stephanie-- See, it always seems to work out in the end...

Jozen, thanks for picking up the slack! You are the best! Now we get to spend TWICE as much time with you! Yeah!

Big ups to the staff who put in time over the long weekend! "We gotta get the paper out," even in a snow storm!

Jodi-- Thanks for coming in early to make sure the website is up!

I See You Amber!!!!!! Go'head lil' shawty! JOOK! JOOK! JOOK!

Stanley, I see you in the future! I'll be there!

Joseph, I see you in the future! I'll be there!

Nike-- I feel you on our talk yesterday! I love you sister! We are going to turn it this weekend. Let's go to Dallas!!!

Cyrcere-- You have to excuse my attitude! You are still on my list!

Chauncie (see you in a minute), & Miyanda Good Luck! I am praying for both of you!

William AKA (my other half), Denise, and Shermela (have fun this weekend) I truly LOVE the three of you!

Jonathan

Let's DTD!!!

Amber-- Thanks for all your help. You are truly a team player!

--EIC

See what we can accomplish when we are all on the same page? The paper has been looking good these past few weeks and that's because of a team effort! Let's keep doing our thing-- making the paper the best it can be this semester-- and go out with a bang! Yguys are the BEST!

--Lauren

Aisha-- keep reading that front page!

# SPRING BREAK

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